14
YUUKI
KODAMA
BLOOD LAD

ゴオオオオ
GOOOOO
(ROOOAR)
.....
GYU
(CLENCH)
ギュ
BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 66 ♠ TIME TO UNITE
BLOOD LAD
YUUKI KODAMA

CHAPTER 66 ♠ TIME TO UNITE
BLOOD LAD
YUUKI KODAMA

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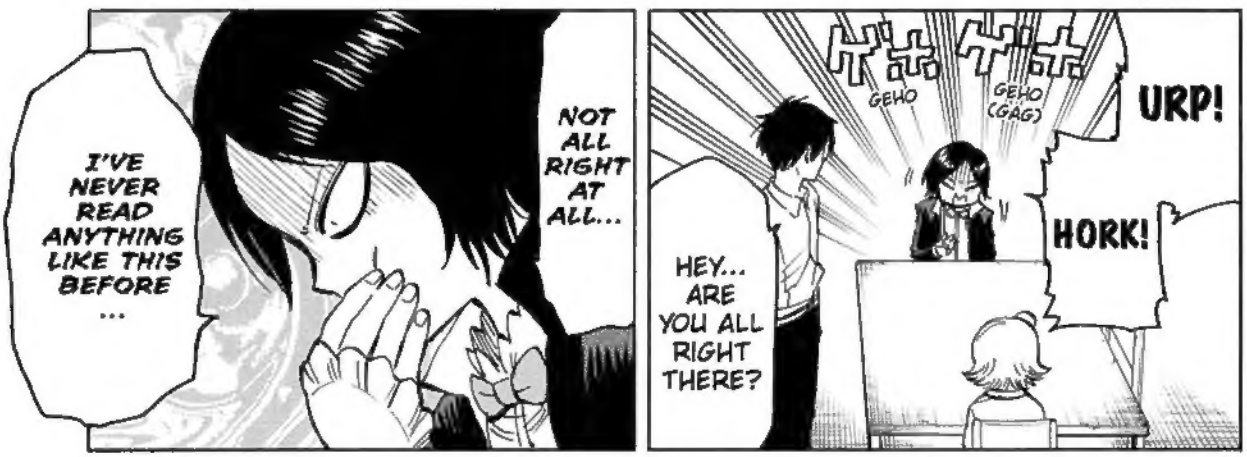
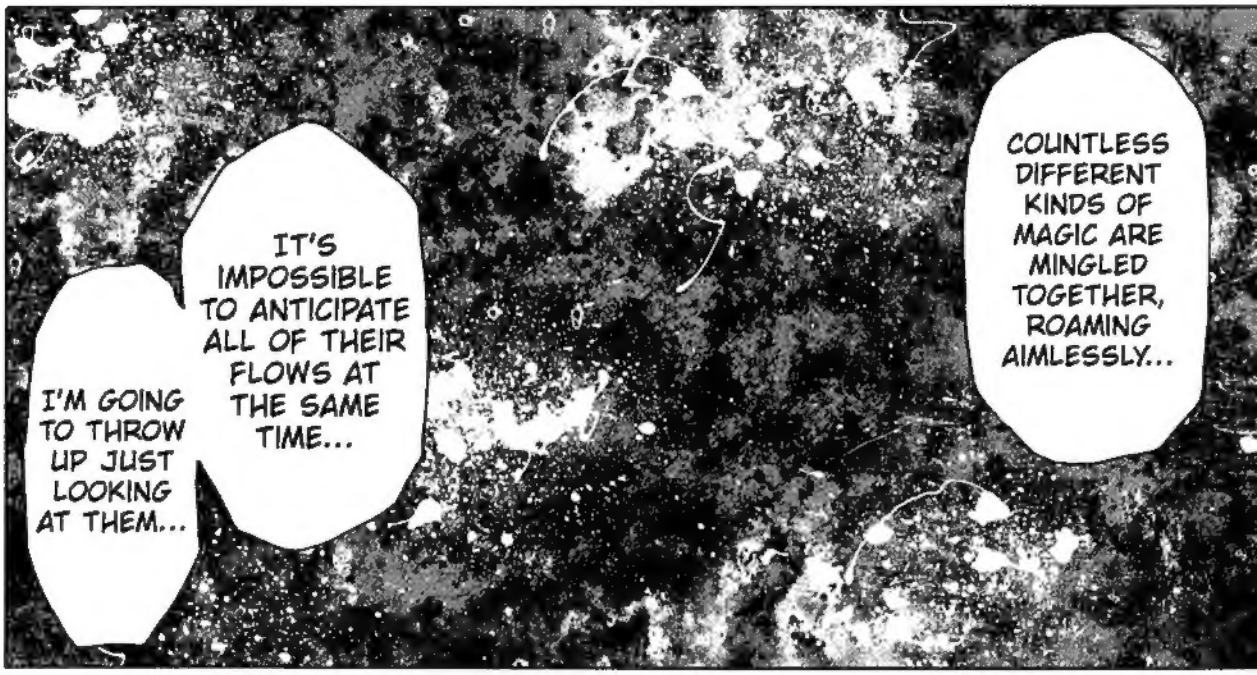
もぐ
MOGU
もぐ
MOGU (CHEW)

WERE YOU ABLE TO LEARN ANY-THING?
HOW'D IT GO, FEARLESS READER?
SO...
もぐ MOGU
MOGU もぐ
もぐ MOGU


I'VE NEVER READ ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE ...
NOT ALL RIGHT AT ALL...
HEY... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT THERE?
GEHO
GEHO (GAG)
URP!
HORK!


COUNTLESS DIFFERENT KINDS OF MAGIC ARE MINGLED TOGETHER, ROAMING AIMLESSLY...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO ANTICIPATE ALL OF THEIR FLOWS AT THE SAME TIME...
I'M GOING TO THROW UP JUST LOOKING AT THEM...

オオオ
OOO (LOOM)
ACTUALLY, IT MAY ALREADY BE GRIMM'S ...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANALYZE THEM ALL.
THERE SHOULD BE ONE ACTING AS A CONTROL TOWER, GIVING OUT COMMANDS TO THE REST.

FIND IT.
THAT'S AKIM'S CORE.

ゴォォォ
GOOOO
(ROOOAR)
ググッ…
GU GU GU
(GRIP)
SU
(LIFT)
ボコ
BOKO
(GLOP)
BOKO

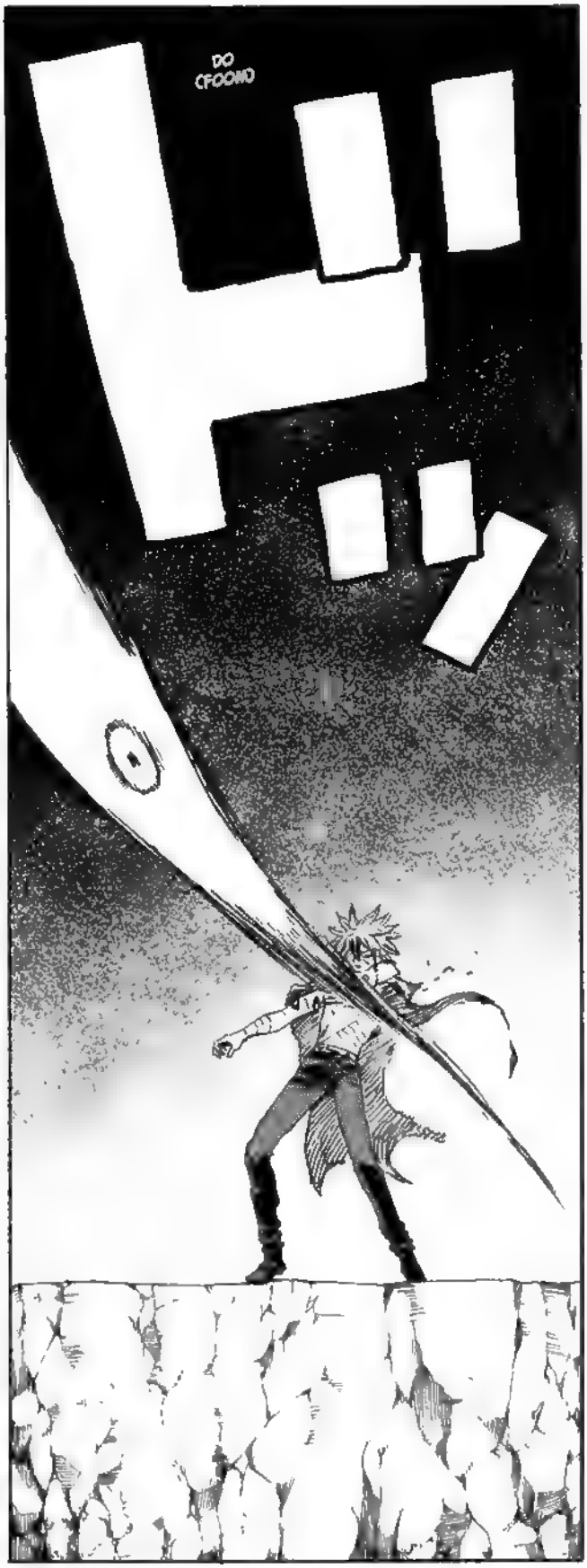
BOKOO
(GLOOOP)
ボコォ

WHY ...?
.....

WHY WON'T YOU DO AS I SAY...?

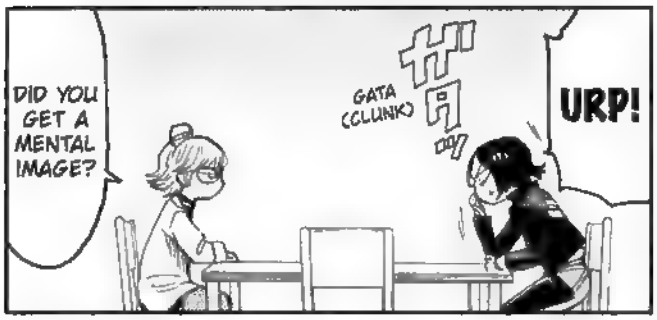
CONTROL
...

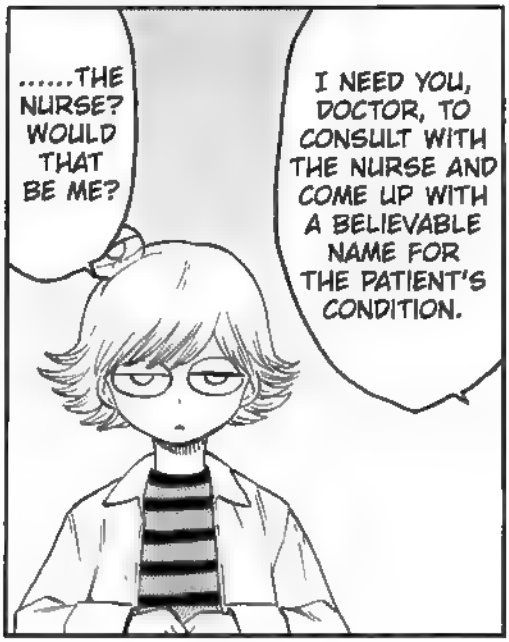
...AKIM OR GRIMM... THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR US TO DO.
REGARD-LESS OF WHO HAS IT...


DO
CFOOMO

FIND THE CORE... AND HEAL IT.
... HEAL ...
..... IT...?
OF COURSE WE HAVE NO INTEN-TION OF SAVING HIM.
BUT WE NEED TO ACT LIKE WE DO.
CALM DOWN, SHAM ...
OUR GOAL IS TO DESTROY HIM!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...!?
IT'S NOT A BAD PLAN.
IN FACT, I AGREE WITH THAT TACTIC.
... UNDER-STAND YOUR FIRST PLAN WAS TO POISON HIM.
I...
.....

...
WHAT I WANT YOU TO FIGURE OUT IS HOW TO ADMINISTER IT.
BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO PUT IT IN HIS FOOD...
WE'RE GOING TO INJECT IT DIRECTLY INTO HIS BODY.
WAIT! WHERE'RE YOU GOING!?
YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME. WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME.
I'M GOING TO GO MAKE THE "MEDICINE."

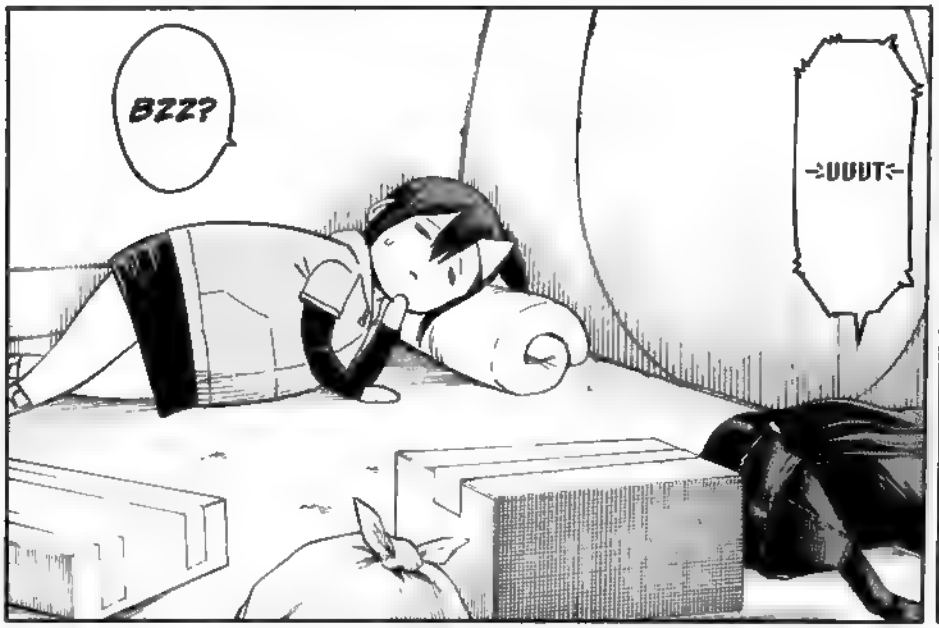

DID YOU GET A MENTAL IMAGE?
GATA (CLUNK)
URP!

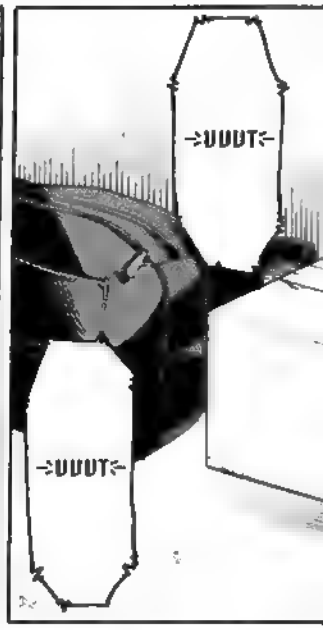

.....THE NURSE? WOULD THAT BE ME?
I NEED YOU, DOCTOR, TO CONSULT WITH THE NURSE AND COME UP WITH A BELIEVABLE NAME FOR THE PATIENT'S CONDITION.

.....AKIM...

IN THE MEANTIME, I HOPE...
ボタ ボタ
BOTA (DRIP) BOTA
SOON I'LL PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY...
HEH...
...YOU CAN MANAGE TO BE YOURSELF.
HEH HEH ...
I SEE ...

BUT...
JIGU (CREAK)
...THE LEFT ARM I HAVE.
SO YOU DON'T LIKE...
I DO HAPPEN TO LIKE THIS ONE.
YOU WILL OBEY ME...


BZZ?
-♪UUUT♪-


-♪UUUT♪-
-♪UUUT♪-

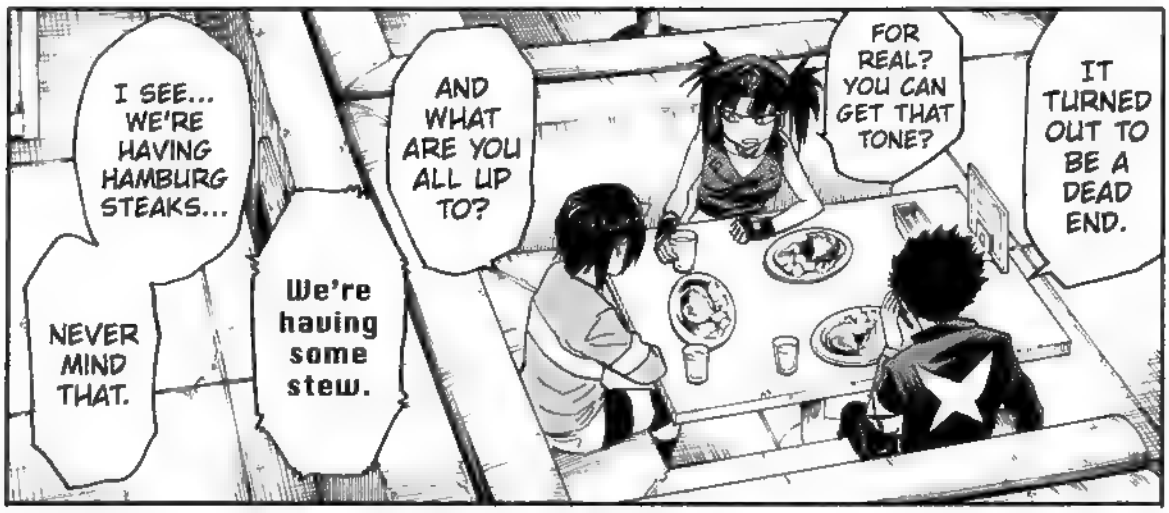
BUT HERE... YOUR PHONE WAS RINGING.
UM, NO THANKS... IF I EAT ANY MORE, I THINK I'LL EXPLODE ...
HEY, FUYUMI, WANT SOME STEW?

STAZ-SAN!

IT LOOKS LIKE THE CALL WAS FROM THE POLICE TEAM...
Spiky
Back
Select
Function

YEAH, IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
DIDJA FIND THAT BASS YOU WERE AFTER?
No...

GACHA (CLICK)
HELLO? IS THAT YOU, STAZ?

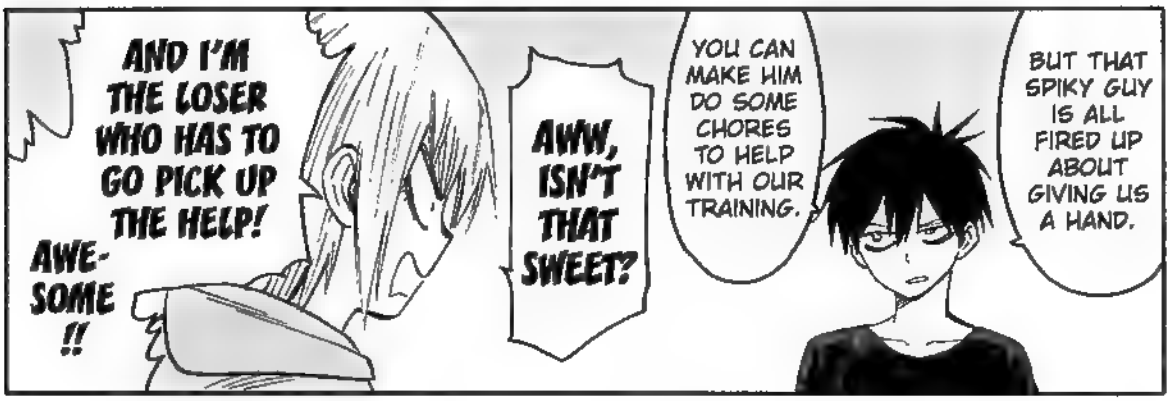

I SEE... WE'RE HAVING HAMBURG STEAKS...
NEVER MIND THAT.
We're having some stew.
AND WHAT ARE YOU ALL UP TO?
FOR REAL? YOU CAN GET THAT TONE?
IT TURNED OUT TO BE A DEAD END.

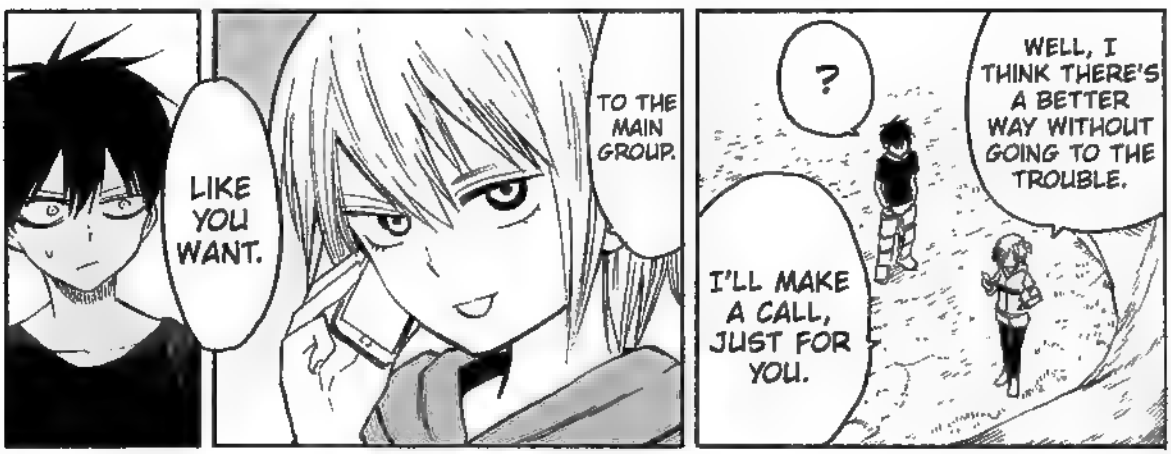
WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW? BESIDES EATING STEW.
SO TELL ME...

MAIN GROUP?
We want to rejoin the main group.
Right... We want to be there to do all we can to help defeat Akim.

...

...WHICH IS, WELL, EXACTLY WHAT WE THOUGHT YOU'D SAY.
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO PICK UP THOSE NUMBSKULL COPS!?
YUP, TOTALLY PREDICTABLE. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE THE GOFER, HUH?
HUH!?
WHAT NOW!?
NO WAY!!


AND I'M THE LOSER WHO HAS TO GO PICK UP THE HELP!
AWE-SOME !!
AWW, ISN'T THAT SWEET?
YOU CAN MAKE HIM DO SOME CHORES TO HELP WITH OUR TRAINING.
BUT THAT SPIKY GUY IS ALL FIRED UP ABOUT GIVING US A HAND.


LIKE YOU WANT.
TO THE MAIN GROUP.
?
I'LL MAKE A CALL, JUST FOR YOU.
WELL, I THINK THERE'S A BETTER WAY WITHOUT GOING TO THE TROUBLE.

I SEE ...
IN THAT CASE, YOU'RE TOTALLY WELCOME HERE.
OH— I DIDN'T MEAN YOU, NEYN-CHAN...
I KNOW.
I'M ALWAYS FRESH.
WOLF DADDY WAS JUST SAYING HE WANTED MORE MAN-POWER.
WE'RE NO SPRING CHICKENS OVER HERE, SO WE COULD USE SOME FRESH BLOOD...
IT'LL BE GOOD TO LET A BREATH OF FRESH AIR INTO THIS PLACE.
WE COULD USE SOME VENTILA-TION...

TO GIVE THEM A BREATH OF FRESH AIR...
I'M OFF.
WELL, THEN ...
WHA...? WHERE TO?
WATCHING THEM DOESN'T DO A THING. I'M GOING MYSELF.
TO SEE THOSE KIDS...

FWEEET ...
FWEET, FWEET TWEET...

WHAT IS IT...?
.....
TWEE ...
...
YOU CAN SING, IF YOU'D LIKE.
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO THINK ABOUT DOJI'S SINGING ON TOP OF THAT.
THAT SOUNDS SO BORING IT'S PUTTING ME TO SLEEP.
CAN YOU CUT IT OUT ALREADY?
...BUT I CAN'T GET MYSELF TO SING...
SORRY ...
...IF THEY CAN NEUTRALIZE EACH OTHER IN THE RIGHT WAY, THEN...
MY CALMING OCARINA AND DOJI'S DESTRUCTIVE SINGING VOICE...
I TOLD YOU... THIS IS AN EXPERIMENT.

I LIKE THE IDEA OF BEING ABLE TO SING ALL I WANT...
...BUT...
DOJI...
I JUST CAN'T...
...AND EVEN IF I COULD, IT WOULDN'T HAVE ANY OF MY SOUL IN IT.
LOOKS LIKE YOU GUYS ARE STUCK.
HEY, IS THAT...?
JUST A LITTLE SOME-THING.
WHY DON'T WE TAKE A BREATHER?

TOKU
トク
TOKU
(GLUG)
トク
JUST AN APERITIF TO START.
I HOPE YOU LIKE IT.
BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I HAD ANYTHING THIS FANCY.
SO THIS IS SHERRY?
THAT'S TRUE...
BUT I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU THIS WHOLE TIME.
I DON'T THINK WE KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU...
I'M SORRY.
.....

I HAVE NO INTENTION OF ACCEPTING HOSPITALITY FROM A COMPLETE STRANGER.
JUST WHO ARE YOU?
NO NEED TO RUSH.
LET'S HAVE OUR APPETIZER FIRST.
BUT IF YOU ASK ME, YOU'RE RATHER CONSER-VATIVE...
...AND LACKING IN AUDACITY.
ALWAYS KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON YOUR SURROUND-INGS.
SO CAUTIOUS— FITTING FOR THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT OF THE FOREST...
MIST... RIGHT, THIS IS HOW YOU ARE.
YOU WERE TRYING TO CONTAIN DOJI'S SONG...
YOU'RE SEEKING TO SOFTEN THE SHARP EDGES THAT MAKE EACH OF YOU UNIQUE.
THAT'S NOT GOING TO WORK.

GET A LOAD OF THIS...
ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE THE HOT TEACHER FOR OUR CLASS OF TROUBLE-MAKERS?
HEH HEH.
YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE MOST OF THAT INDIVID-UALITY...
MY. HOW FRIGHT-ENING.
YOU WANT TO FIGHT ME TOO?
STOP IT, JACK.
MAKE THAT CHILL FACE OF YOURS TWIST WITH TERROR...
I REALLY WANNA MESS YOU UP.
SHAKI (SHING)
シャキ..

SHE'S TALKING TO ME NOW.

NOT ME.

MAKE THE MOST OF OUR INDIVID-UALITY...?
YOU DO SOUND SURE OF YOURSELF.

ARE YOU SAYING YOU CAN DO THAT...?

.....
TELL US MORE...
CHIN (TING)
チン…
I'M ONLY HERE TO HELP...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MUST WAVE THE BATON, MIST.
...OVER DINNER.
GOOD CALL.
I'LL TAKE A REFILL, PLEASE.
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING, NEYN-CHAN!

THEY'RE NOT THE TYPE TO SIT QUIETLY AND HEAR YOU OUT.
THEY'RE THE BIGGEST TROUBLE-MAKERS IN THE DEMON WORLD!
I'M ALWAYS SERIOUS.
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO GO ALONE!
EVERY-THING THOSE CHILDREN WANT...
...IS TIED UP IN THEIR COMPLEXES.
DOJI ...
?
MIST MIGHT BE AN EXCEP-TION.
BUT THE OTHER TWO...
...WANT TO OVERCOME THEIRS...
YOU WANT TO SING...
...BUT DEEP DOWN, YOU'RE AFRAID TO.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO SING AT SUCH A COST?
IS IT FOR YOUR-SELF?
WHEN YOU SING, OTHERS GET HURT.
.....
BE-CAUSE ...
BECAUSE I LIKE TO SING...
KACHA (TUNK)
I SEE ...
I LIKE TO SING TOO...BUT SINGING...
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE ALONE... YOU SING IN SOLITUDE.
WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART IS CONVEYED DIRECTLY TO THE LISTENER...
...IS ALSO A WAY TO COMMUNICATE OUR FEELINGS.
...AND WANT TO OVERWHELM THOSE AROUND YOU...
IF YOU'RE SELF-ABSORBED ...

...THEN THAT'S WHAT COMES THROUGH ...

NO...
I JUST ...
DON'T BE AFRAID...
GATA (CLUNK)
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT ...
YOUR AUDIENCE WILL HEAR WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART...
NOW IS THE TIME TO SING NOT FOR YOURSELF, BUT FOR SOMEONE ELSE...
...WITH ALL YOUR HEART.
SORRY... I'VE LOST MY APPETITE.
EXCUSE ME.

UNFOR-TUNATELY ...
CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THE LECTURE YOU'VE GOT IN STORE FOR ME.
...I'M NOT PLANNING TO SAY ANYTHING TO YOU.
HEH HEH.
BATAN (SHUT)
YOU MANAGED TO CHASE DOJI OFF THE STAGE.
NOT BAD...
RIGHT AWAY, MADAM.
BRING THEM, PLEASE.
WHA?
LET'S HAVE A COMPE-TITION.
DON (BOOM)

THERE'S NO LIMIT TO HOW MUCH WINE I CAN DRINK.
ME...
HEY, YOU SERIOUS?
.....
SO... CAN YOU HOLD YOUR LIQUOR?
NOW, THEN ...
WE EACH KEEP TAKING DRINKS UNTIL ONE OF US GIVES UP.
WHO GOES FIRST?
THEN WE HAVE A GAME...
NOBODY HOLDS HIS LIQUOR BETTER THAN ME.
...CAN YOU HOLD YOUR ...
I WILL.
AND THEN...

I DON'T THINK HE COULD BEAT YOU AT WINE DRINKING, NEYN-CHAN...
YOU'RE RIGHT...
RIGHT?
IF I DRAW HIM INTO A WINE DRINKING CONTEST, I'LL HAVE ALREADY WON.
JACK WILL MAKE AN EFFORT TO HOLD ON TO HIS REASON, RIGHT?
BUT WHAT'S THAT DO FOR US?
THAT'S RIGHT.
NO ONE STANDS A CHANCE AGAINST YOU.
...OH BOY.
JACK, WHO HATES TO LOSE, WILL START BY LOSING TO ME.
THAT'LL BE A START.
...GOT IT.
SO YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. JUST GO AND PICK UP THAT BREATH OF FRESH AIR.
KA
KA (KLAK)

OH, HEY. IT'S YOU.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, SIRE!
BISHII (FWISH)
WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT PRICKLY GIRL?
GOOD OF YOU TO COME.
GOT IT...SHE'S ALREADY HAD ENOUGH OF WORKING UNDER ME, THAT IT?
NO... THAT ISN'T IT, SIRE...!
...BUT SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT HOW SHE'S SICK OF BEING ORDERED AROUND...
WELL, ER...SHE DID COME WITH ME...
WHAT-EVER.
SHE THINKS WE WERE SUMMONED TO DO SOME KIND OF CHORE.
IT'S JUST A MISUNDER-STANDING.

N... NOTHING, SIRE.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
.....
GO MAKE COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS.
TEN COPIES EACH.
RIGHT AWAY...MY PLEASURE ...
BEBBE
BEEN
BEEN (BWAAANG)
BEBBE (BUM)
...THE POLICE.
BEBBE
BEEN

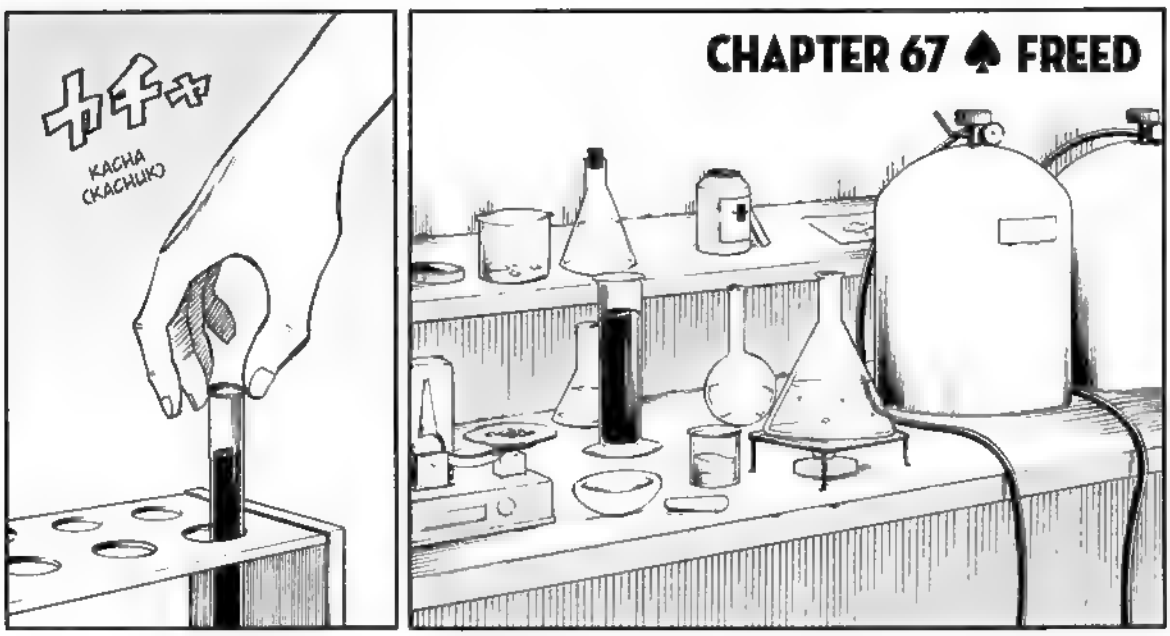
.....
THAT WAS "WALKING ON THE MOON" BY THE POLICE, RIGHT?
HUH?
OH YEAH?
THEN SING FOR ME.
I... LIKE TO SING.
.....
WHAT'S WITH YOU...? WHAT'S THE MIC FOR...?
THAT'S WHY YOU'VE GOT THE MIC.
WHAT'S THE POINT OF SAYIN' NO?
DON'T PLAY DUMB.
HUH?

I'M NOT SCARED.
I'LL SING FOR YOU.
THE HELL? A BIG DUDE LIKE YOU GOT ITTY BITTY BALLS?
YOU SCARED OR SOMETHING?
BUT... I...
...NO.
.....
I'LL SING MY HEART OUT FOR YOU...
.....
I'M SHTEYN☆ DOJI...
...
I'M... DOJI...
CREEPIN' ME OUT...
DUDE, WHAT IS YOUR DEAL...?
♠ To Be Continued ♠

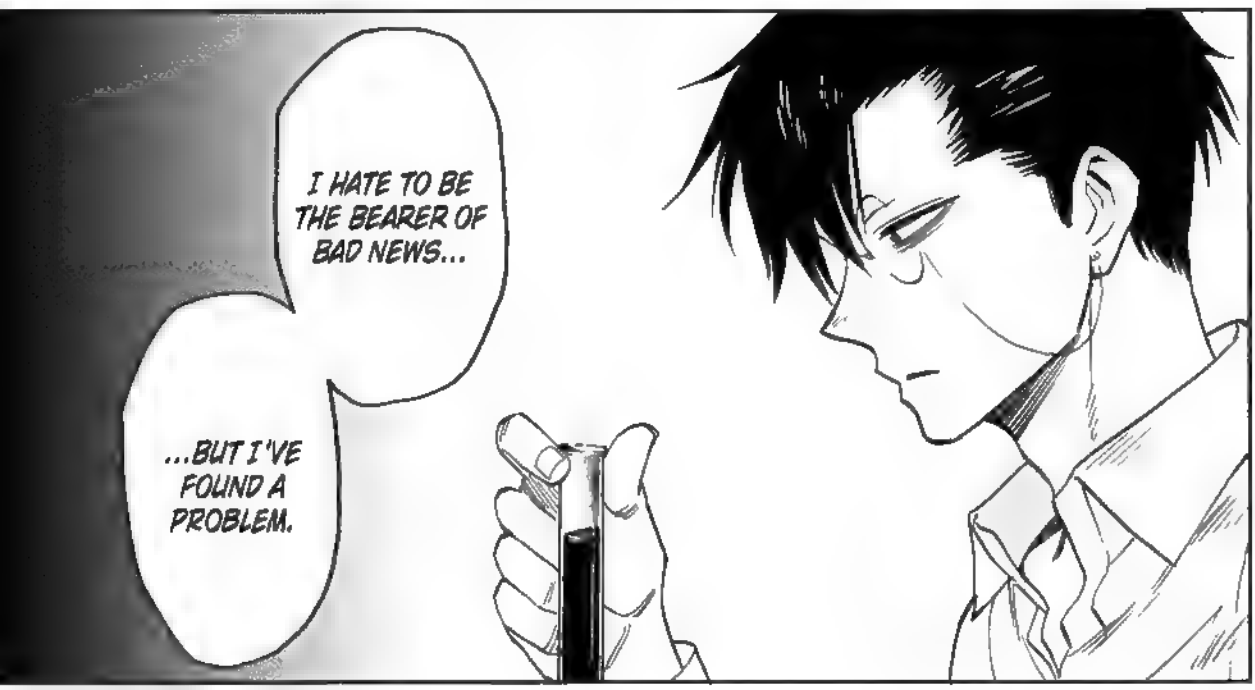
.....
ウィーン WIIIN (VWEEEM)
カシャ KASHA (SHK)
ウィーン WIIIN
カシャ KASHA

BLOOD LAD

# FIVE DAYS LEFT




LEVEL OF AKIM'S MAGIC: 586,900



LET ME GUESS...
...YOUR MAJ-ESTY'S MAGIC...
YES, SIRE... WHEN TESTED WITH THAT DEVICE...
WITH MY MAGIC?
...PRE-CISELY, SIRE.
YOU FOUND TWO DIFFERENT MAGIC IDENTITIES WITH CONTROL.
HA HA HA ...
FOR NOW...
OF COURSE I DID. IT'S MY BODY.
SO YOU ALREADY KNEW...
I'LL REMOVE THE OTHER ONE.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
AND?

THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE...
SO YOU WANT TO DESTROY BOTH... RIGHT?
WE'LL LEAVE YOUR MAJESTY'S CONTROL INTACT...
...AND REMOVE WHAT I CAN ONLY ASSUME IS GRIMM'S...
YOU'RE LYING.
YOU AREN'T DULL OR OBEDIENT ENOUGH TO SERVE AS A PAWN AT MY BECK AND CALL...
AND NEITHER ARE YOU.
BASA (FLAP)
YOU WANT TO KILL ME THE FIRST CHANCE YOU GET.
AND THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY.
I GET IT, BRAZ...
...I'M NOT STUPID, YOU KNOW.
JUST WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...

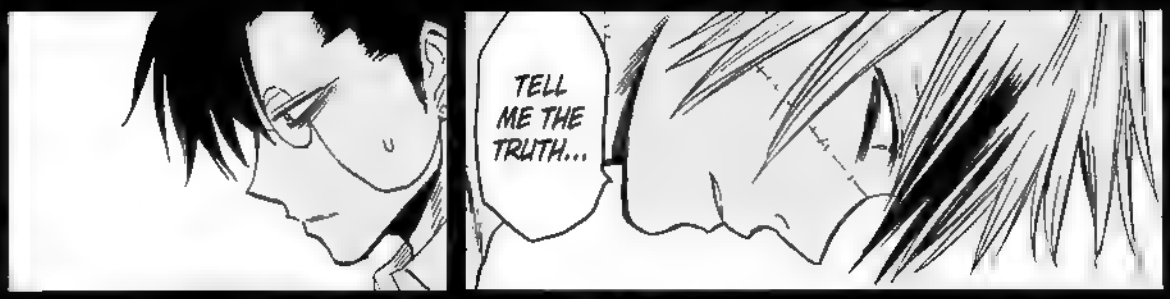
ズ
ZU (ZHM)
ズ
ZU
ズ
ZU
GJJJ (BLORP)
グシュ

...THIS DESTRUCTIVE URGE...
プク PUKU (BLOOP)
I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'M DOING EVERYTHING I CAN TO SUPPRESS...

TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST...I'M TERRIFIED.

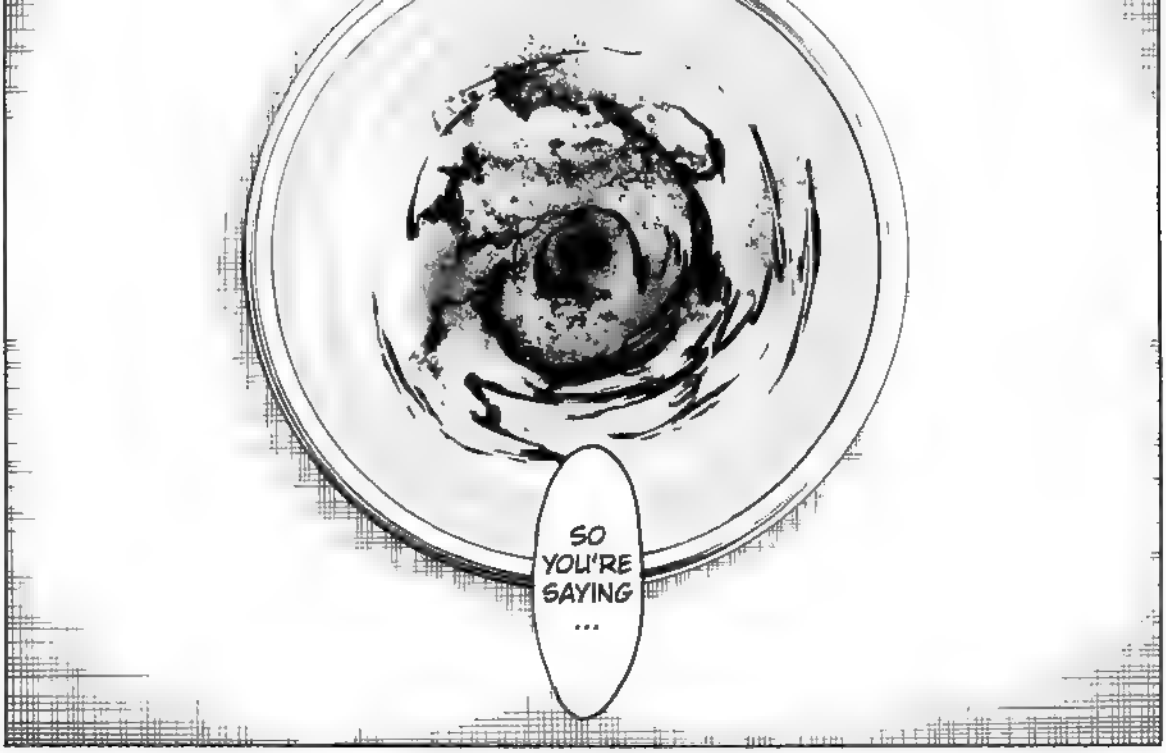
.....
THAT'S ...
.....NO, I'M NOT TRYING FOR A MAKEOVER.

I WANT TO TAKE THE BODIES OF THE BLACKLISTED AND MAKE MY POWER EVEN MORE PERFECT...
IS IT REALLY ME THINKING THAT...?
I DON'T KNOW...
I CAN'T BE SURE... THERE'S NO WAY TO TELL NOW...
AT SOME POINT...
...I LOST TRACK OF WHERE I END AND GRIMM BEGINS.
I CAN'T EVEN TRUST THIS BODY...
I CAN FEEL MYSELF BECOMING LESS AND LESS MYSELF...
RIGHT NOW, AS YOU'RE STANDING BEFORE ME, I WANT TO SLAUGHTER YOU. BUT IS THAT MY DESIRE OR HIS...?




YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF SAVING ME, DO YOU...?

HE WAS ALREADY CATCHING ON.
THAT WE'RE GOING TO POISON HIM...?
SO YOU JUST TOLD AKIM THE TRUTH!?
BUT STILL!
YOU'RE KIDDING ME...
NO...
WE CAN STILL USE IT.
IF WE CAN'T USE THE DRUG WE'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD TO MAKE...
...THE PLAN IS RUINED!
YOU COULD HAVE MADE SOME-THING UP!
WHAT ...?
PO (DRIP)
I THINK THAT'S WHAT AKIM WANTS TOO.


SO YOU'RE SAYING ...

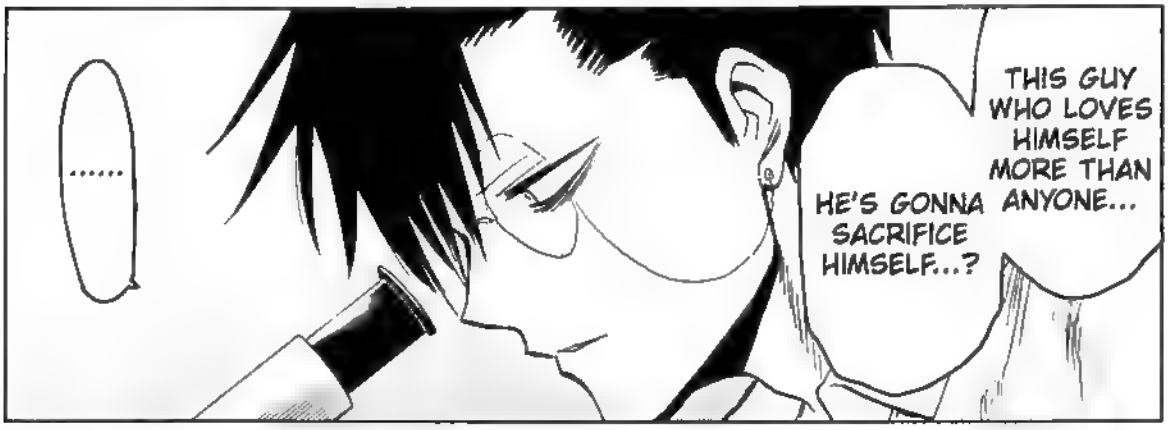
TH-THIS IS A SERIOUS SITUATION... WHAT IF AKIM IS ALREADY...?
SO ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN CON-QUERED.
CALM DOWN, SHAM.

...WERE ALREADY COM-PLETELY MERGED.
...THE TWO ENTITIES IN CONTROL, WHICH YOU FOUND WITH YOUR READER ABILITIES...

BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT, ONE OF THEM WAS IN COMMAND.
THAT'S RIGHT...THE TWO MAGIC POWERS WERE IN CONFLICT AT FIRST.

B... BUT...!
AT THIS RATE, IT DEFINITELY WILL HAPPEN!
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT THE SAME THING IS HAPPENING IN THE REST OF HIS BODY.
THAT'S JUST WHAT WAS GOING ON IN HIS HAIR SAMPLE.

AKIM ALREADY KNEW THAT.
POTA (DRIP)
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
AKIM WILL LOSE TO GRIMM'S POWER...!
ARE YOU SERI-OUS ...?
AT THIS POINT, WE DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER OPTIONS.
...I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.


.....
THIS GUY WHO LOVES HIMSELF MORE THAN ANYONE...
HE'S GONNA SACRIFICE HIMSELF...?

...IN THIS BODY I CAN CALL MY OWN, OTHER THAN MAYBE MY HEART...
THERE'S NOTHING ...
LISTEN TO ME...

THIS FACE, THIS BODY— NONE OF IT IS MINE.
IT'S ALL BORROWED ...
DO YOU UNDER-STAND...?

THE PERCEPTION THAT SOMETHING IS BEAUTIFUL...
YES... THAT'S WHAT BEAUTY IS TO ME.

... HAH.
THOSE FEELINGS ARE MINE.

I DON'T HAVE VERY MUCH TO IDENTIFY AS MYSELF...
...SO I NEED SOME KIND OF GUIDE.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
WHY, YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE ABOUT TO DISAPPEAR... AKIM.
YOU'RE RIGHT... I HAVE NO INTENTION OF SAVING YOU.
I WAS GOING TO USE THE POISON TO GET RID OF YOU...
THE BOTH OF YOU...
...AKIM AND GRIMM.
YES...
BUT YOU'LL BE GONE EITHER WAY, AKIM—
WHETHER OR NOT I USE THE POISON...
IS THAT SO...?

SO I'LL LET YOU CHOOSE ...
YOU CAN KILL ME HERE AND BECOME GRIMM.
OR YOU CAN TAKE THE POISON AND DIE AS AKIM.
CHOOSE THE ONE THAT'S MORE BEAUTIFUL TO YOU...
...AKIM...

THAT FELLOW AKIM YOU'VE BEEN TALKING TO...
...IS NO LONGER HERE...
...CHOOSE, YOU SAY...?
OH NO, THAT WON'T BE HAPPENING ...
OUR NAME IS GRIMM...

DO (SHUNK)

DO

DO

DAN (SLAM)

ZU

ZU

ZU (VMM)

HERR-SCHAFT... GRIMM.

ZU

ZU (VIMMD
HERR-
SCHAFT...
GRIMM.
ZU

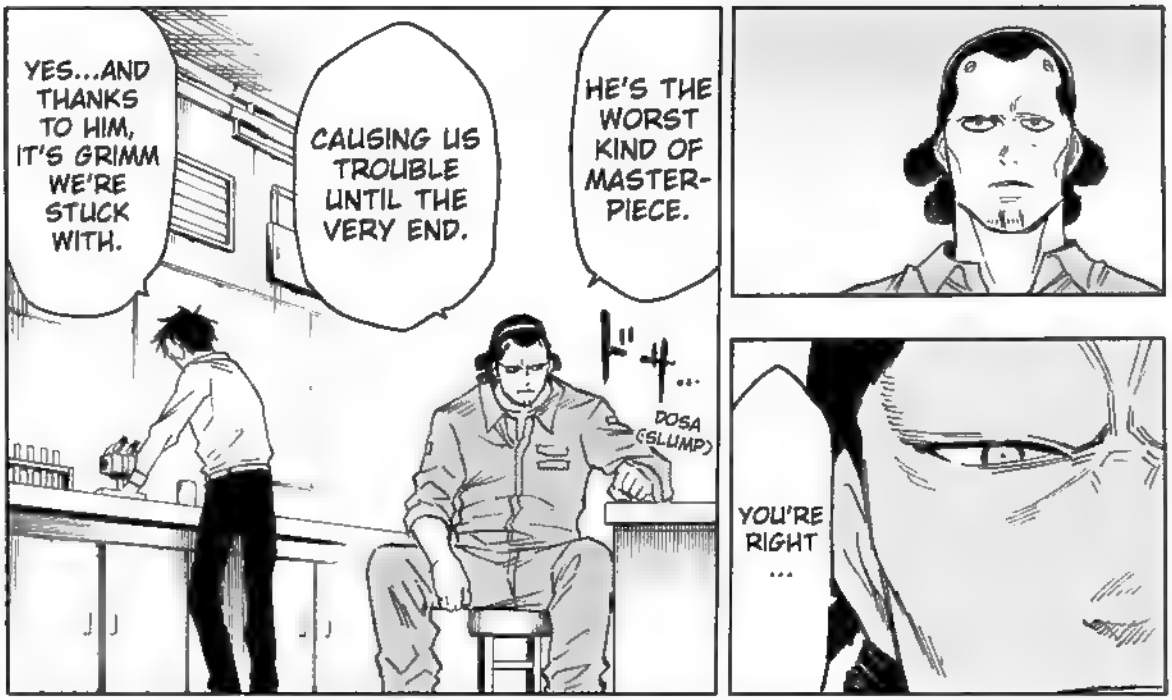
DO
(SHUNK)
DO
DO
DAN
(SLAM)
ZU
ZU

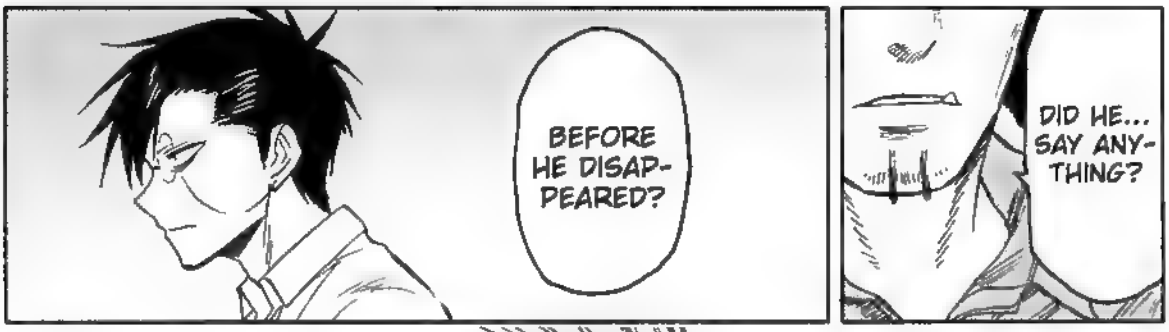
DIDN'T WE TELL YOU...?
ZUCHU (SPLUT)
WE TOLD YOU NOT TO BETRAY US...
HAH!
HAH!
HACK!
BRAAAZ ...

OH, WAS IT NOW ...?
TOO BAD YOU'LL NEVER GET THE CHANCE...
HAA ... HAA ...
IT WAS..... WORTH A TRY...
BUT BETRAY US, YOU DID.
DID YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU COULD KILL US WITH POISON?
YOU FOOL.
ZURYU (SLIDE)
...SO WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY...
... OR ...
BUT THIS IS AMUSING.
THAT GLARE...
YOU REALLY DO BELIEVE IT WAS WORTH TRYING...
YOU'RE SO CERTAIN YOU COULD HAVE KILLED US WITH POISON AND CAN'T STAND THE IDEA THAT ALL YOUR EFFORT IS FOR NOTHING...

BRING US THE VERY BEST POISON YOU CAN MAKE.
WE'LL DRINK IT ALL DOWN... JUST THE WAY YOU WANT.
VERY WELL.
DOSA (THUD)
AS EASILY AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED AT ALL.
AND THEN WE WILL KILL YOU.
HEH... HEH HEH HEH HEH.
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT SORT OF FACE YOU'LL MAKE THEN.
AKIM IS NO LONGER THERE AT ALL.

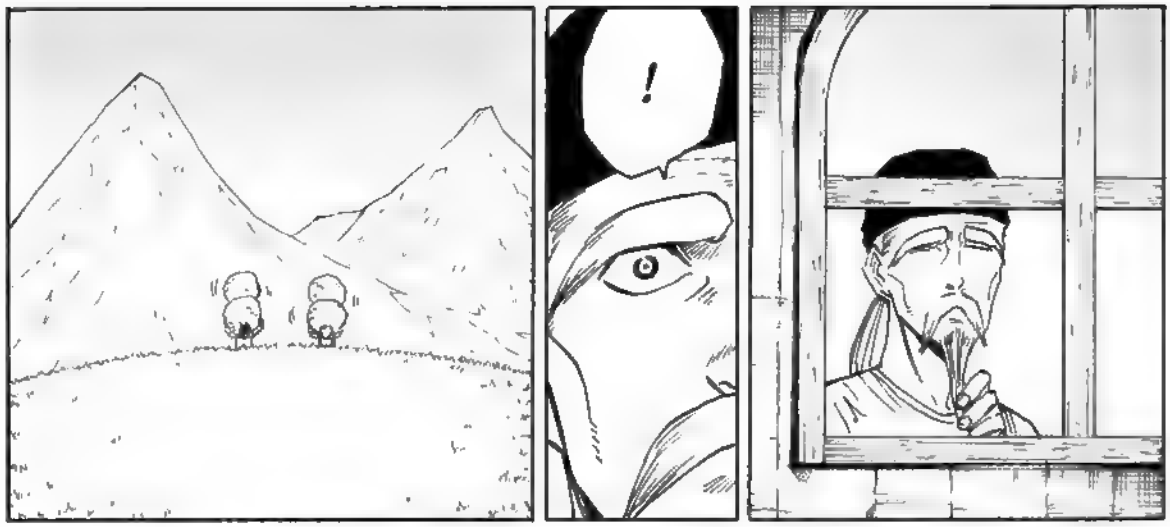
HE NEVER EVEN GOT TO MAKE THE CHOICE.
WE WERE TOO LATE...
HE'S NOT GOING TO SACRIFICE HIMSELF...
HUH ...?
.....I'M SORRY, FRANKEN.
BUT...
...HE'S STILL AN ARTIFICIAL DEMON THAT YOU AND I MADE.
...I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO TELL YOU.
HE WAS... AS TERRIBLE AS ANYONE COULD BE...


YES...AND THANKS TO HIM, IT'S GRIMM WE'RE STUCK WITH.
CAUSING US TROUBLE UNTIL THE VERY END.
HE'S THE WORST KIND OF MASTER-PIECE.
HA...
DOSA (SLUMP)
YOU'RE RIGHT ...


BEFORE HE DISAP-PEARED?
DID HE... SAY ANY-THING?

...WAS THE GUIDE TO HIMSELF.
HE SAID THAT HIS PERCEPTION OF BEAUTY...
LET'S KILL THE BAS-TARD.
BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE... I HAD NOTHING TO SAY IN RETURN.
LOOKING BACK ON IT NOW, THAT WAS HIS WAY OF SAYING GOOD-BYE.
WE'LL KILL HIM WITH EVERY-THING WE'VE GOT.
YES...
LET'S TAKE DOWN GRIMM... BEAUTI-FULLY.

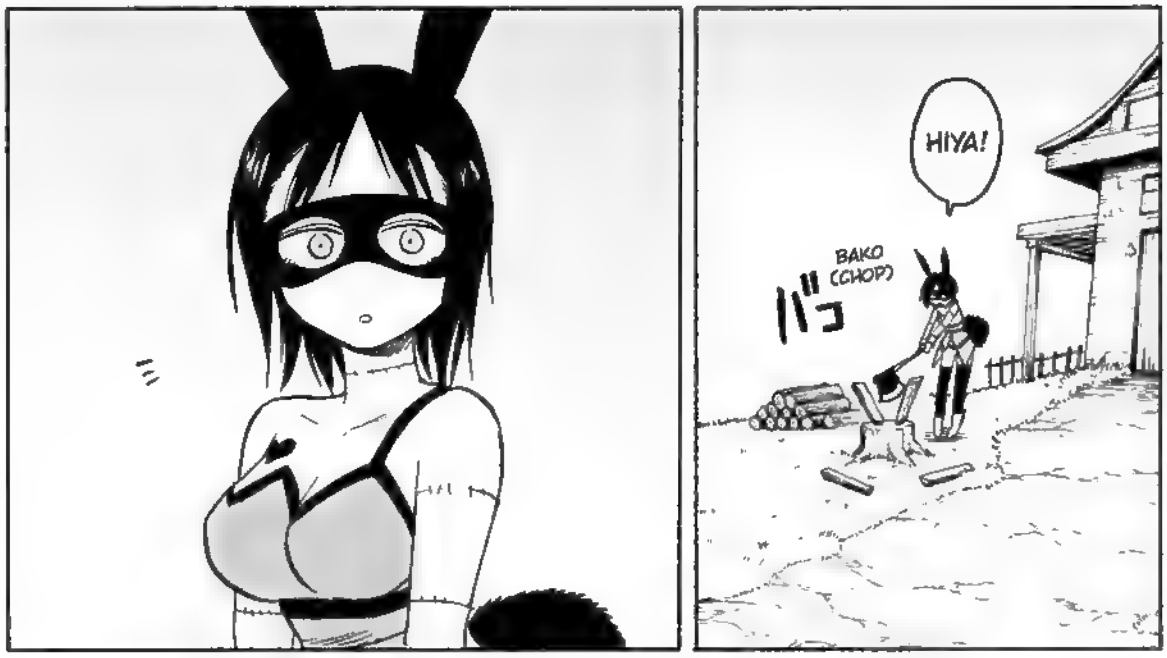
BAKO (CHOP)
THERE'S A LOT MORE. DO YOU MIND TAKING CARE OF IT?
I'M GLAD.
WHOO-HOO!
YAY! RIGHT IN HALF!
THIS IS FUUUN!
HA-HA! THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
SURE, BUT I'LL STOP AS SOON AS I GET BORED.
I'M GOING TO CHECK ON THE FIELDS OUT BACK.

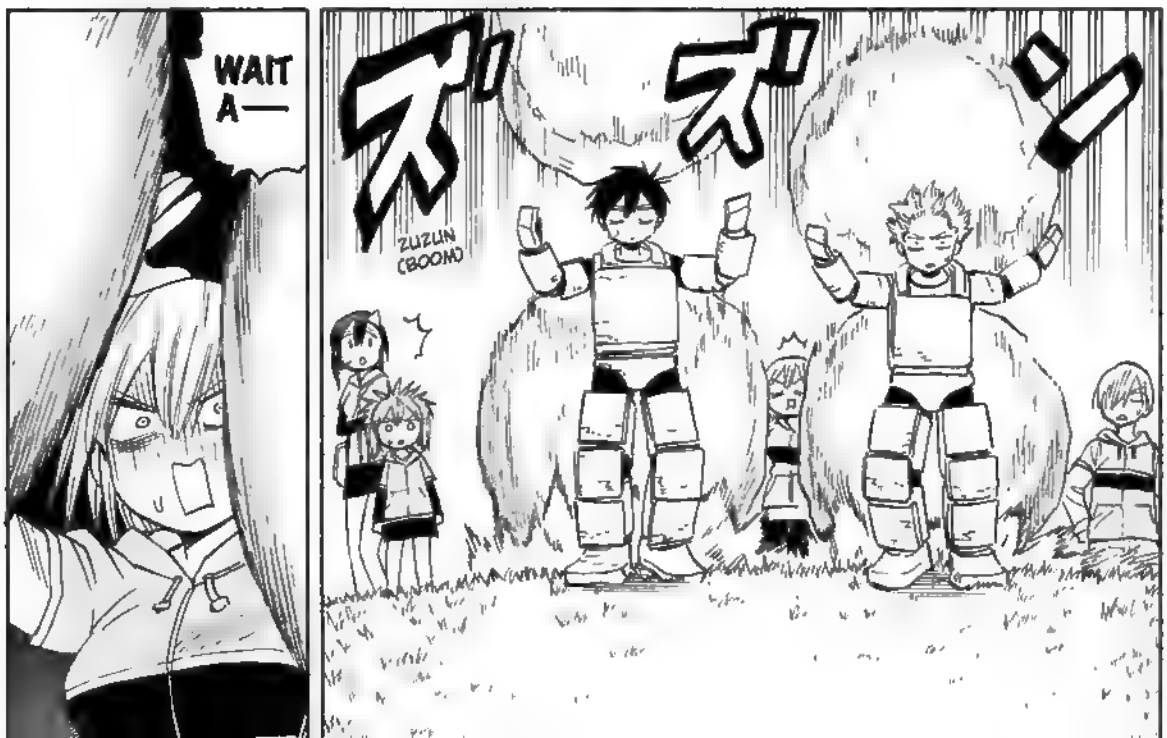

!

ZA
DON (BOOM)
ZA
ZA (STOMP)

...TO THE END OF YOUR TRAIN-ING!!
WE'VE ALMOST MADE IT TO THE MARK ON THE MAP...
COME ON, STEP IT UP!

WE GOT IT, SO JUST PUT A LID ON IT...
HUH?
SHUT UP...
YOU'LL GET TO SEE THE OLD GEEZER!!


HIYA!
BAKO (CHOP)
バコ


WAIT A—
ZUZUN (BOOM)

WHOOOA!!
GORO (RUMBLE)
ゴロゴロ
GORO
GORO
THAT'S ...
YEAH ...
DON'T TELL ME THIS IS PART OF THE TRAINING, BELL...
GAAAAAH!
...UM... SORRY ...
WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE...?
ZAMU (STEP)
I CAN'T CONFIRM AT THE MOMENT, BUT PROBABLY NOT...
SO YOU MADE IT... LET ME GIVE YOU A PROPER WELCOME.
HO HO...

GRAMPS
...

...MY HOUSE, NUMBER TWO.
THIS IS THE LOCATION ON THE MAP...

AND...

-BI (PWIP)
YAY!
EVERY-ONE PLAY NICE! ☆
.....

BURGUNDY-CHAN.
...THIS IS A HOUSE-GUEST OF MINE...

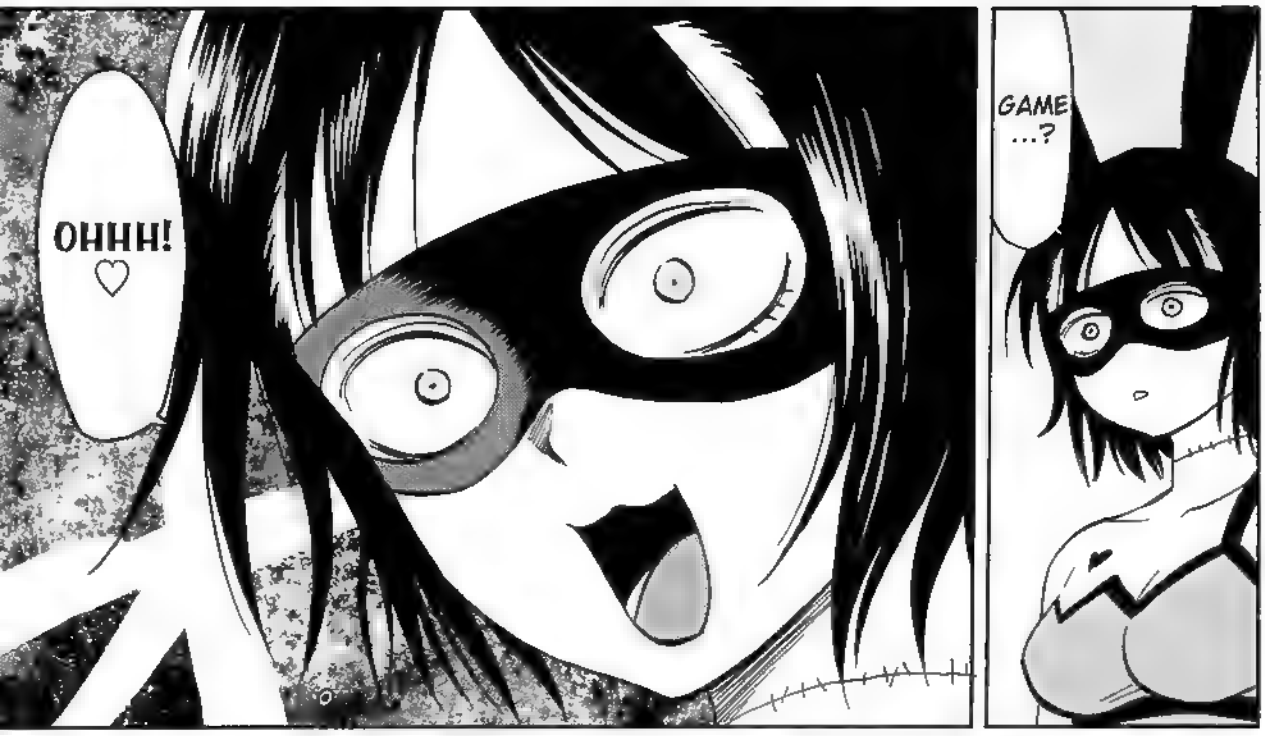
HE KNEW THAT I WAS ONE OF THE DEMON COLORS.
...
YOU WERE IN SOME DIRE STRAITS... AND HE MEANT FOR YOU TO COME TO ME FOR HELP.
SHOULD WE MAKE A PEACE SIGN, LIKE SHE IS...? OH WAIT, WE CAN'T...
YEAH ...
HOLD UP... I'M ABOUT OVER-FLOWING WITH SNIDE REMARKS.
YOU SEE, THE PERSON WHO DREW THAT MAP FOR YOU... BRAZ.....
I'LL EXPLAIN IT REAL SIMPLE-LIKE...
HMM... I CAN SEE HOW YOU'D BE CONFUSED.
.....
...THE MOMENT YOU MET ME.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU HAD ALREADY COMPLETED YOUR OBJECTIVE ...
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU'VE ALL GAINED BY COMING HERE.
NO...
... THERE'S NO GIANT ROBOT HERE...
SO THAT MEANS ...

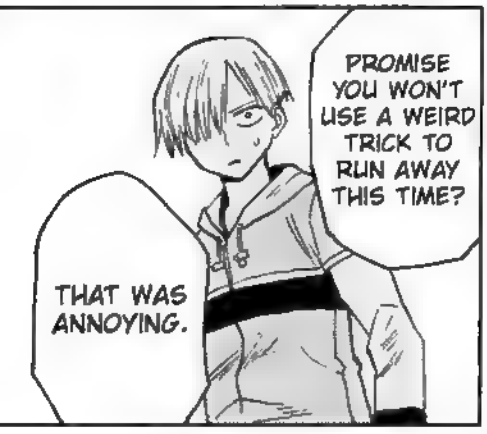
TAKE OFF YOUR HIKING GEAR.
SEE FOR YOUR-SELF.

I HEREBY PERMIT THE USE OF MAGIC.

BAGO (CRUMBLE)
BAGOO
I'VE BEEN WAITIN' A LONG TIME...
...FOR THIS.

WELL THEN, BURGUNDY-CHAN...
WOOOW, COOL!
HO HO.
PACHI (CLAP)
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
WOULD YOU MIND PLAYING WITH THESE TWO A BIT...?
SURE ...
OOOOOOO (LOOM)
DOING WHAT?
THE GAME WE DIDN'T FINISH BEFORE.
DO YA EVEN HAVE TO ASK?

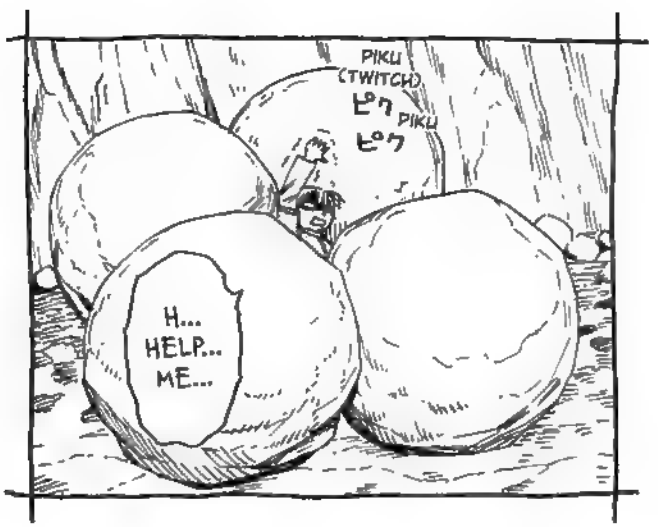

OHHH!
♡
GAME ...?


PROMISE YOU WON'T USE A WEIRD TRICK TO RUN AWAY THIS TIME?
THAT WAS ANNOYING.

...S-STAZ-SAN...
WE'LL BE FINE. STAND BACK.

I WAS LOOKING ...
...FOR YOU GUYS.
NOW I REMEM-BER.

DID YOU FEEL THAT, WOLF?
JUST NOW, WHEN YOU FREED UP YOUR OWN MAGIC.
YEP...
CLEAR AS DAY.
FELT LIKE THE BLOOD WAS FLOWING THROUGH MY BODY FOR THE FIRST TIME.
I CAN SEE IT ALL NOW.
キシ
KISHI (GRIND)
To Be Continued


PIKU
(TWITCH)
ピカ
PIKU
ピカ
H...
HELP...
ME...

BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 68 ♠
THE FOURTH BLACKLISTED
DON (ZOOM)

STRAIGHT AT ME... NO FEINTS.

OOOO (VMM)

COMING FOR MY HEAD...
...WITH HER RIGHT HAND...!!

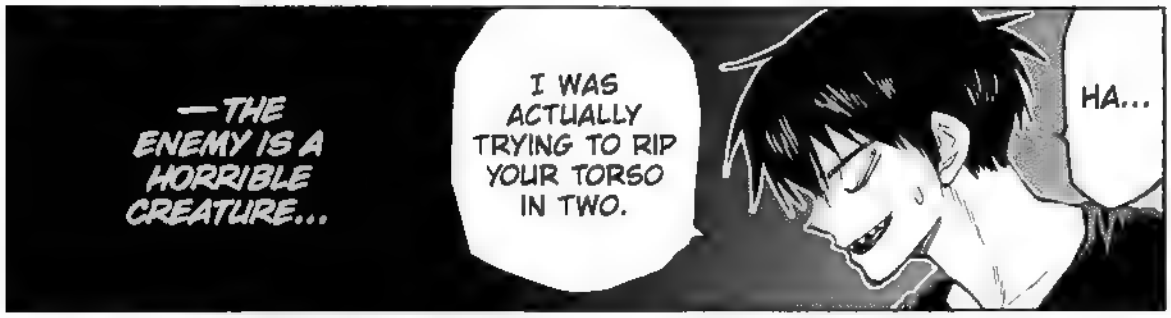
CHARISMA ...!!
ZA (SKID)
BOGAAAA (WHAAAM)
BUN (VM)

GA (BAM)
GA
GA
GA
OWW ...!
PA (POP)
PA
PA
BAAAN (FOOM)
GET OUTTA MY WAAAY!

DO
(SHOOM)
!!

THE PLAN, AND THE MASTERY OF MAGIC— BOTH SPLENDID. VERY IMPRESSIVE PROGRESS.
WELL DONE... PINNING DOWN HIS OPPONENT AND HITTING HER WITH POWERFUL MAGIC AT CLOSE RANGE...
ZA
(KTCH)
HO!

THERE'S A BIG HOLE IN IT.
I LIKED THIS OUTFIT...
MUKU (RISE)
ろろoo
HOWEVER...


—THE ENEMY IS A HORRIBLE CREATURE...
I WAS ACTUALLY TRYING TO RIP YOUR TORSO IN TWO.
HA...

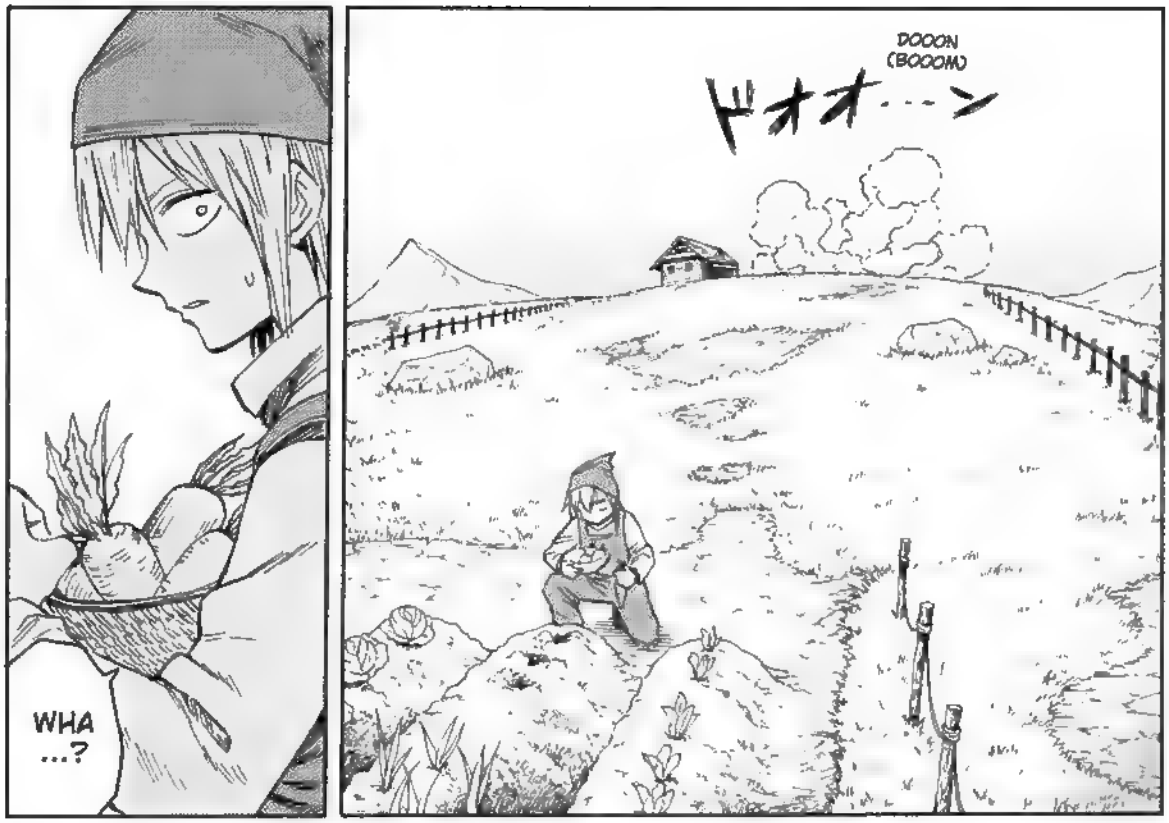
IF HE TRIES TO FIGHT FAIR AND SQUARE...
FORGET MY PROMISE TO PAPA.
NOW I'M MAD.

ゴゴゴゴ
...HE WON'T HAVE A CHANCE...
BOGOGOO (RRRUMBLE)

WOLF ALREADY KNOWS...
ATTA BOY...

AT THAT MOMENT, WHEN MOST WOULD BRACE TO DEFEND...
THE INSTANT SHE APPEARS TO UNLEASH AN ATTACK—

...HE'S NOT AFRAID TO TAKE A RISK.


WHA
...?
DOOON
(BOOOM)
ドオオ…ン

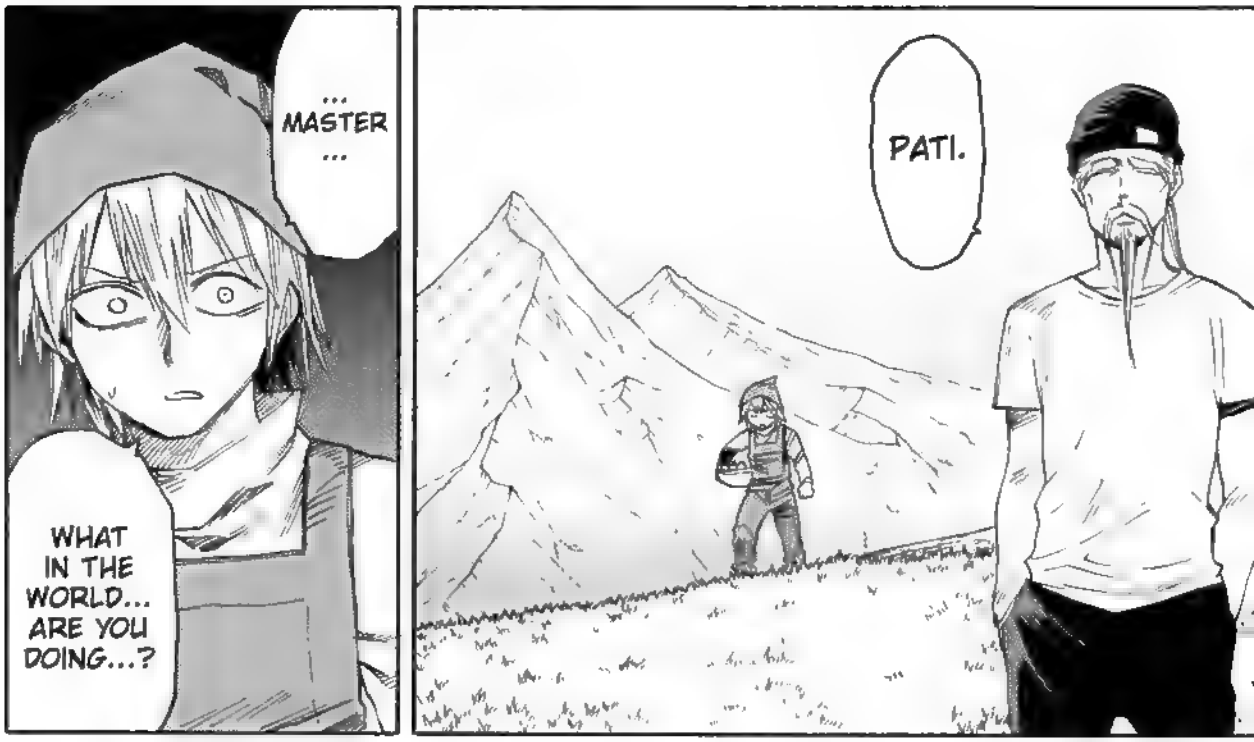
GA
(BAM)
GA
GA
GA

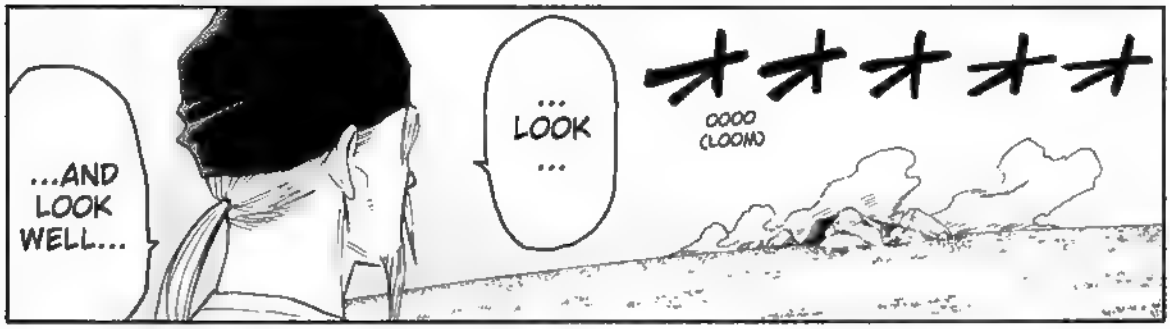
BOGA
(SLAM)
BLUO
(WHOOSH)

GA
(GRAB)
!
WHOOOA!
BUOOO
(FWOOM)
UH—

DIDJA THINK THAT WAS YOUR CHANCE?
ME TOO, BUN-BUN.

PARA (PATTER)
PARA
DOGOOO (CRASH)
..... THERE YOU ARE...


... MASTER ...
WHAT IN THE WORLD... ARE YOU DOING...?
PATI.


...AND LOOK WELL...
... LOOK ...
オオオオオ
OOOO (LOOM)

オオオオ
OOOOO
THAT...

FEELS FUNNY.
YURA (TOTTER)
THIS ISN'T RIGHT... I...I'M... RUNNING OUT...I GUESS?

SHE HASN'T REPLENISHED HER MAGICAL ESSENCE TO FULL CAPACITY...
BURGUNDY HAS BEEN AWAY FROM HER PARENT FOR A LONG TIME.

AND SOON IT'LL BE ENTIRELY DEPLETED...
LIVING HERE, HER MAGIC WAS AT ABOUT ONLY 20%.

...IS YOUR FRIEND'S TRUE FORM.
GEHO (COUGH)
UHHHHH!

AND THE HUNTERS THAT I SET UPON HER...
...WILL BRING THAT ABOUT.

I DUNNO WHAT THE DEAL IS, BUT SHE LOOKS PRETTY SPENT NOW. IF WE KEEP GOING, WE MIGHT END UP KILLING HER.
THAT OKAY WITH YOU?

HEY, GRAMPS.

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE...
...BUT PLEASE DON'T DO IT!
NO!
OF COURSE, THAT'S...
... SURE.
HEY, WHAT THE HELL'S HE GOIN' ON ABOUT...?
FRIEND?
WOLF!
UHH ...
SHE'S MY FRIEND!!
YURA ユラ
YURA (WOBBLE) ユラ

.....
!
DO
(GOOSH)

TCH!
...
STAZ!

... MAGIC ...
I JUST ENDED UP FEEDING THAT THING...
DAMMIT, WOLF, KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE PRIZE.
MY MAGIC...
NOT ENOUGH ...

PLEASE STOP...
IT'S TOO LATE... SHE'S LOST ALL REASON.

.....
..... STOP IT...

EVEN IF I HAD DONE NOTHING ...
...THE SAME THING WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IN A FEW DAYS.
MASTER... YOU DID THIS TO HER...
... YOU'RE WRONG ...!!

THIS IS HER TRUE SELF...
THERE'S NO CONTROLLING HER NOW...

...IS ONLY THE INEVITABLE FUTURE...
GAJI (GNAW)
GAJI
WHAT YOU'RE SEEING...

... PATI.
YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT IT...

...I CAN'T.
ビキ BIKI
ビキ BIKI (CRICK)
.....

!
PATI ...!?
BIRI (RIP)
DON'T ...!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO...!?
DO (VMM)
YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN AND THINK.
DO
DO
DO
YOU MUSTN'T UNLEASH THAT POWER!!
OOO (LOOM)
I JUST ...
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
... CAN'T .....!!

オオオオ

BWOOOOOOO
(RAAAAARG)

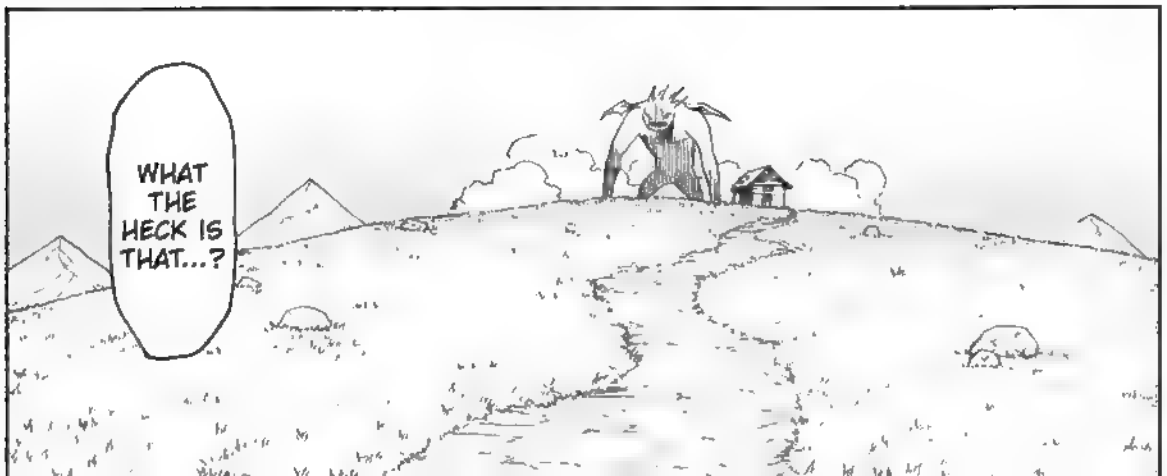
オオオオ

ボオオ

BWOOOOOOO
(RAAAAARG)

ズドドド
!
ZUN
(STOMP)
BIRI
(SHOCK)
ビビビ
BIRI
ビビビ
BIRI
BIRI

WHA...


WHAT THE HECK IS THAT...?

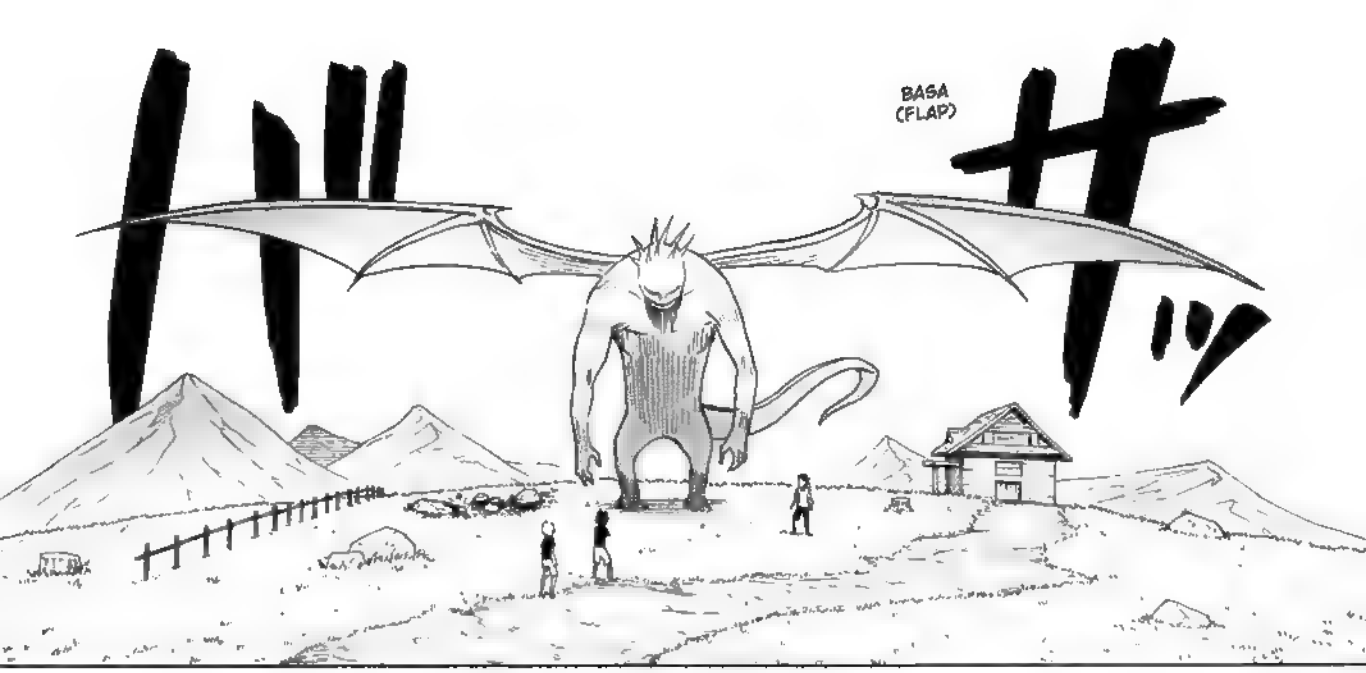
BWOOOO (ROAR)
PATI JABBER-WOCK.
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
...SO THIS...
...IS YOUR MATURE FORM...
GIRO (GLARE)
OOOO (ZOOM)

BAKUN (CHOMP)
バクン

GOKUN (GULP)
ゴクン
WHA ...?

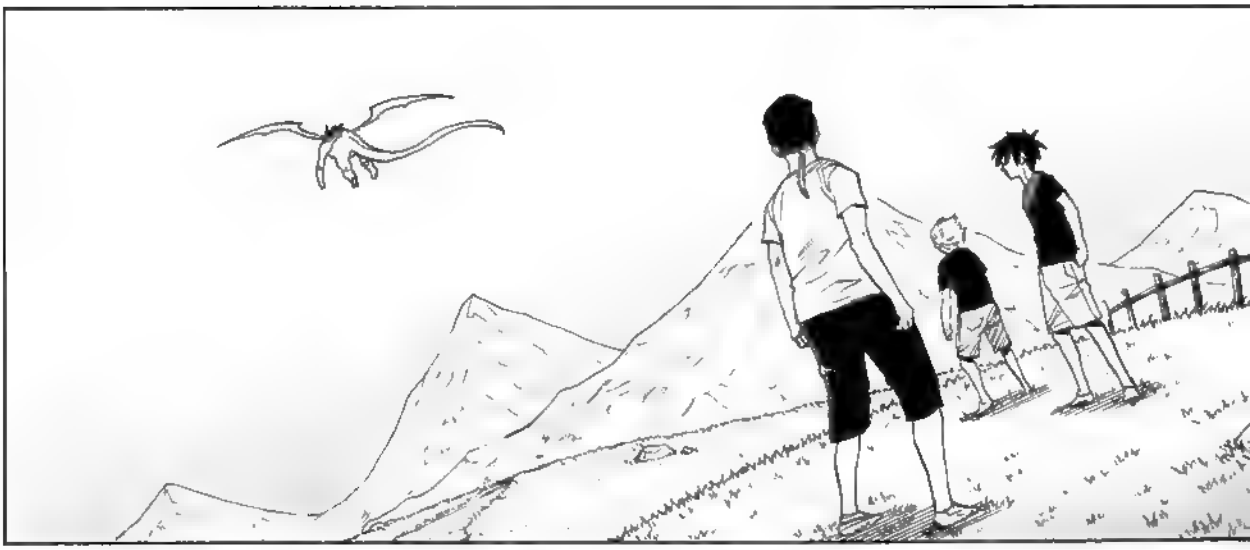
MEKYO
メキョ
メキョ
MEKYO
メキョ
MEKYO (SNAP)

ZUZUN (BOOM)
ズズン


BASA
(FLAP)

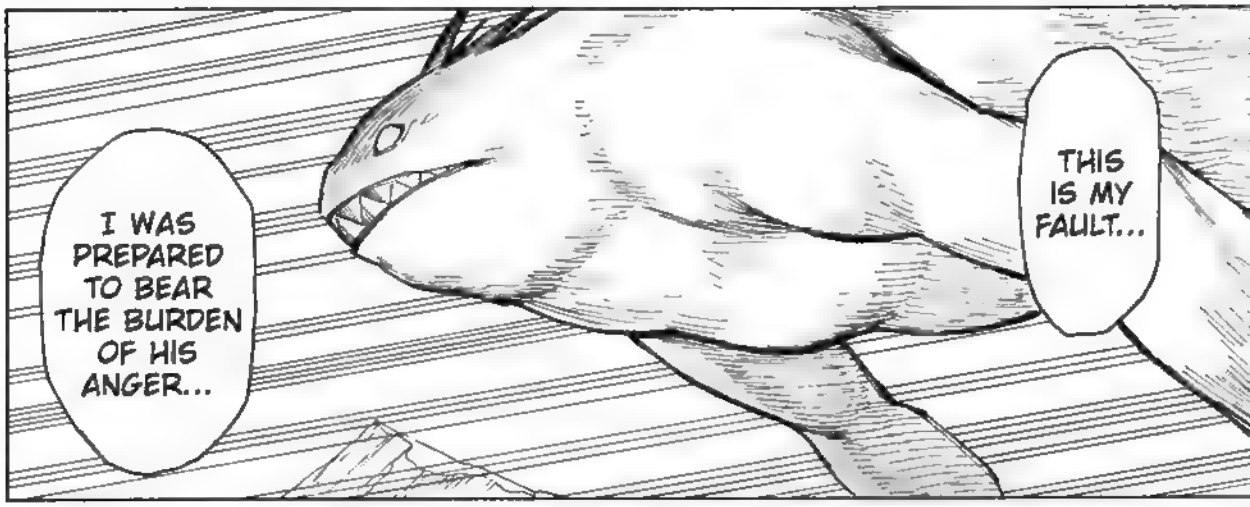
DOHYUN
(LEAP)

WAIT!
PAT!!!



WHAT IS THAT GUY...?
.....

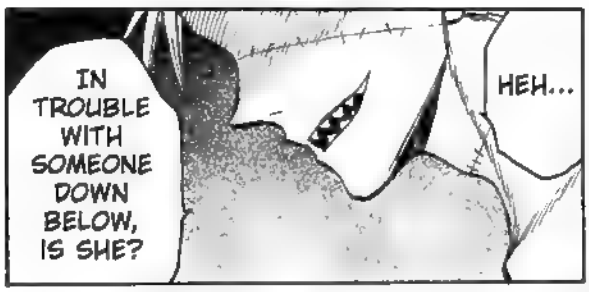
THE HELL IS GOIN' ON...?
...


I WAS PREPARED TO BEAR THE BURDEN OF HIS ANGER...
THIS IS MY FAULT...

ドクン...
DOKUN (BADUMP)

MM...
DOKUN
BUT I HAD NO IDEA HE WOULD DO SOMETHING SO FOOLISH ...
DOKUN
.....
...PATI?
DON'T WORRY...
I'M GOING TO PROTECT YOU...

オオ
ooo
ゴオオ
GOOOO
(LOOM)
SOME-
THING
WRONG,
SIRE...?
BURGUNDY'S
MAGIC IS
RUNNING
LOW.
I HAVE TO
GO HELP
HER RIGHT
AWAY...
!
HELP
HER
...?
THEN
...


IN TROUBLE WITH SOMEONE DOWN BELOW, IS SHE?
HEH...

IT'S BURGUNDY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT...SHE PROBABLY FORGOT HER PROMISE TO YOU AGAIN AND ATTACKED SOMEONE DOWN BELOW.
WHY?
AND IF SHE'S LOW ON MAGIC, THAT MEANS SHE'LL BE IN TROUBLE.

IF THAT'S REALLY THE CASE, WE DON'T NEED HER SORT...
...IN OUR FAMILY.

SO BURGUNDY IS A FAILURE...
SIMPLE AS THAT.
KELLY ...

DON'T DISAPPOINT PAPA.
DON'T YOU GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS.
WE ARE WATCHING YOU...
HEY, YOU.
COME HERE.
.....
SA (DUCK)
MEOOOW!
STOP MESSING AROUND. COME ON.

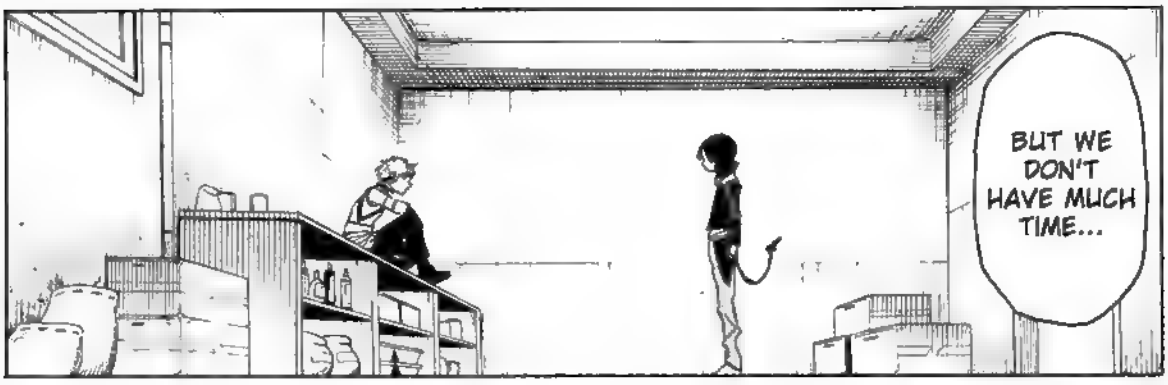
ARE YOU SPYING ON US?
OH...NO, THAT IS, ER...
YOU'RE ALWAYS WATCHING IN YOUR SPARE TIME.
I ALREADY KNEW THAT.
IMPRESSIVE.
SO YOU KNEW I WAS THERE...
LATELY... HE DOESN'T SEEM HIMSELF...
YOU LOT DIDN'T DO SOMETHING TO HIM?
.....
NO..... AKIM IS...
ABOUT KING AKIM, I MEAN...
NEVER MIND... TELL ME, DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING?

HEY, NOW. DON'T TAKE OUT YOUR ANGER ON LAB EQUIP-MENT.
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU.
THIS POISON WON'T DO AT ALL!
DAMN ...!

GASSHA (SMASH)

YES, YOU'RE RIGHT ...

OUR WEAPONS ARE OUR COOL HEADS AND CRAZY IDEAS.
WE'RE SCIEN-TISTS, REMEM-BER?


BUT WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME...

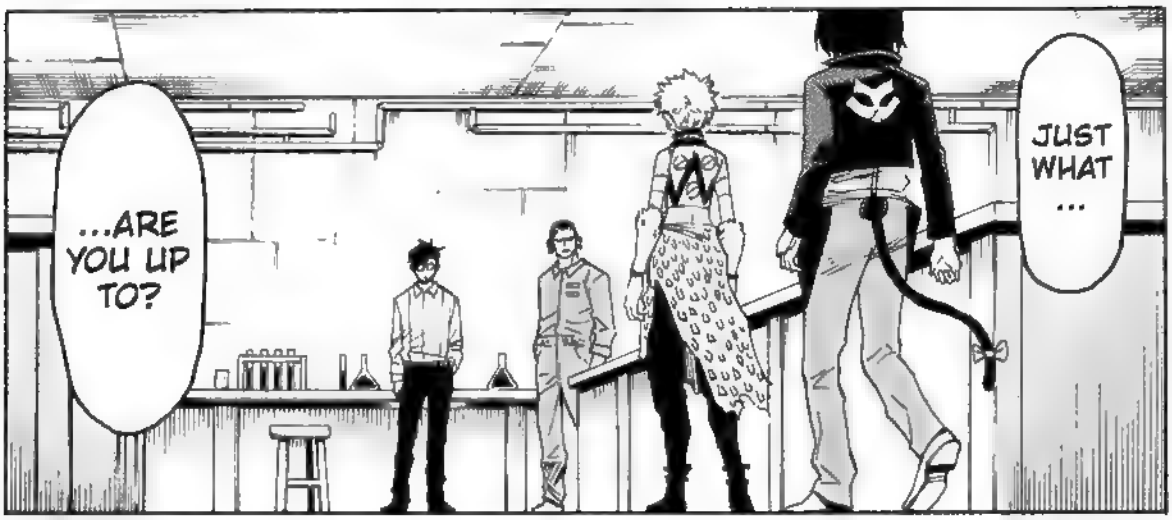
..... THAT CAN'T BE...

THIS SOUP NO GOOD!!
...
GASHAAN (CRASH)

BLOOD LAD

BAN
(WHAM)
CHAPTER 69 ♠ REBORN! EVIL POTATO

START TALKING!
!


...ARE YOU UP TO?
JUST WHAT ...

# CHAPTER 69 ♠ REBORN! EVIL POTATO

WE'RE MAK-ING...
...A POISON TO KILL THE KING.
HEY...! BRAZ, C'MON...
IT'S ALL RIGHT...THIS IS ON HIS MAJESTY'S ORDERS.
COM-PLETELY LEGITIMATE.
NOW YOU KNOW. SO WOULD YOU MIND LEAVING US TO IT?
YOU'RE INTERRUPT-ING OUR WORK.
I DON'T THINK SO...
MY WORK IS TO PROTECT HIS MAJESTY...
I CAN'T LET YOU KILL KING AKIM...

I KNOW IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT THE KING AS HE IS NOW...
...ISN'T THE AKIM YOU KNOW!!
W—
WAIT, KELLY!
SO I'D BETTER KILL YOU FIRST...!
GOKI (CRACK)
AKIM IS ALREADY GONE...
HE'S QUITE RIGHT ...
DON (SLAM)

KING AKIM ISN'T GONE!
HE'S STILL ALIVE... INSIDE THE OTHER ONE!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I CAN TELL!! I CAN FEEL IT—
I WON'T LET YOU KILL HIM!
.....
AND...? YOU'RE GOING TO KILL ME INSTEAD?
IF YOU DO THAT, YOU'LL BE KILLED TOO.
BY THE NEW KING— GRIMM ...
.....

SO BURGUNDY IS A FAILURE...
SHUT UP!!
BUT YOU OVER-ESTIMATE ME.
...I'M FLAT-TERED, REALLY ...
I CAN'T MAKE A POISON STRONG ENOUGH TO KILL GRIMM...
GUO (LUNGE)
I DON'T CARE ...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT THE KING THINKS OF ME. I'LL...

.....
BRAZ IS TELLING THE TRUTH.
WE'RE STUCK...
...BUT I'M NOT EVEN WORTH KILLING ...
SO I HATE TO SAY IT...
WHAT ...?
SO LET'S GIVE UP ON COOKING IT UP.
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL NEVER COMPLETE THE POISON ...
THAT'S WHEN YOU SHOWED UP...
ABOUT WHETHER THE WAY TO KILL GRIMM IS REALLY POISON.
ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS FOR A WHILE...

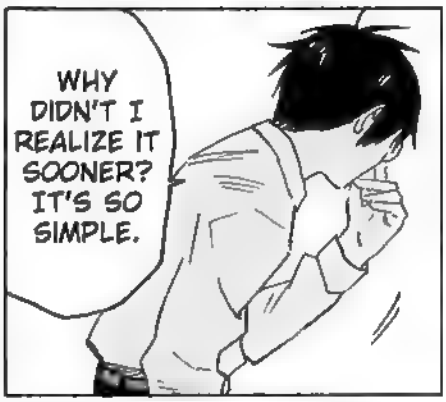
YOU SAID AKIM IS STILL ALIVE...
WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE ...?
I WAS BORN OUT OF KING AKIM'S MAGIC.
SO IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE... BUT I KNOW.
BECAUSE HE'S MY FATHER.
HA-HA... THAT IS A GOOD REASON.
BUT WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE, FRANKEN?
DON'T YOU SEE...? THERE'S A NEW POSSIBILITY HERE.
WE HAVE TO FUNDA-MENTALLY CHANGE... OUR WAY OF THINKING...
WE DECLARED TO GRIMM THAT WE'RE GOING TO MAKE POISON...
...AND HE SAID HE'D DRINK IT.

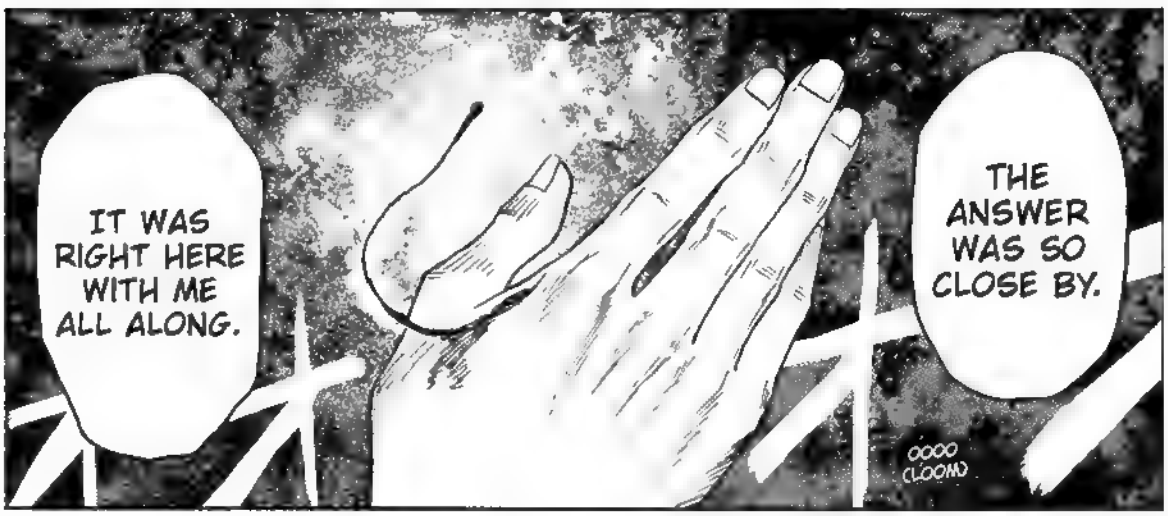
...HE'LL UNCONDITIONALLY DRINK ANYTHING WE GIVE HIM, EVEN IF IT'S NOT POISON.
AND IF YOU LOOK AT IT ANOTHER WAY, THAT MEANS...
HE'LL DRINK WHATEVER POISON WE GIVE HIM.
YES. YOU'RE RIGHT ...
HEH... HA-HA ...
AND IT'S PROBABLY SOME-THING SIMPLE...
I CAN'T STOP THINKING THAT'S WHERE THE ANSWER IS.
HA HA HA HA HA!

YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT, FRANKEN.
HEH HEH ...
HA-HA... PARDON ME.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

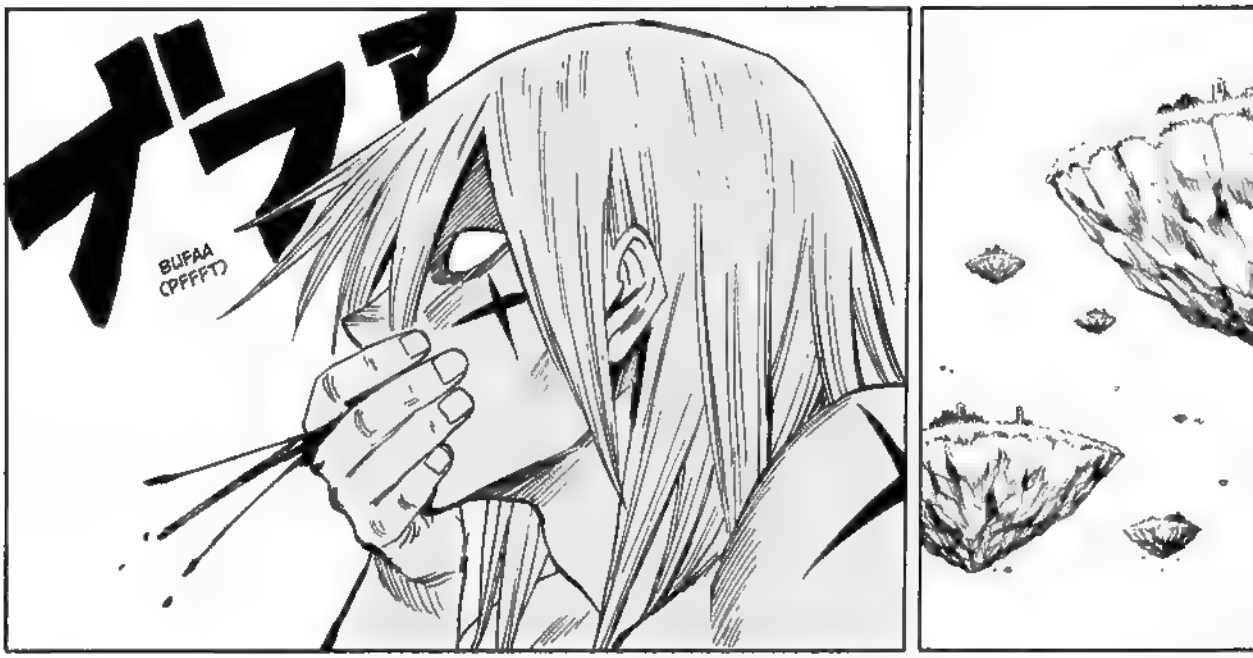
THERE WAS NEVER ANY NEED TO MAKE IT.
NOT AT ALL.

...
YOU'RE A FANTASTIC LAB PARTNER.


WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE IT SOONER? IT'S SO SIMPLE.


IT WAS RIGHT HERE WITH ME ALL ALONG.
THE ANSWER WAS SO CLOSE BY.
OOOO CLOOMD

WHAT WE'LL GIVE HIM TO DRINK...
...IS MY BLOOD.
BLOOD STALKER .....


ブファ
BUFAA (PFFFT)

KUI (TIP)
LOOKS LIKE I WIN AGAIN.

NO... NOT YET... I AIN'T DONE...
GUGUGU (NNNG)
JACK!

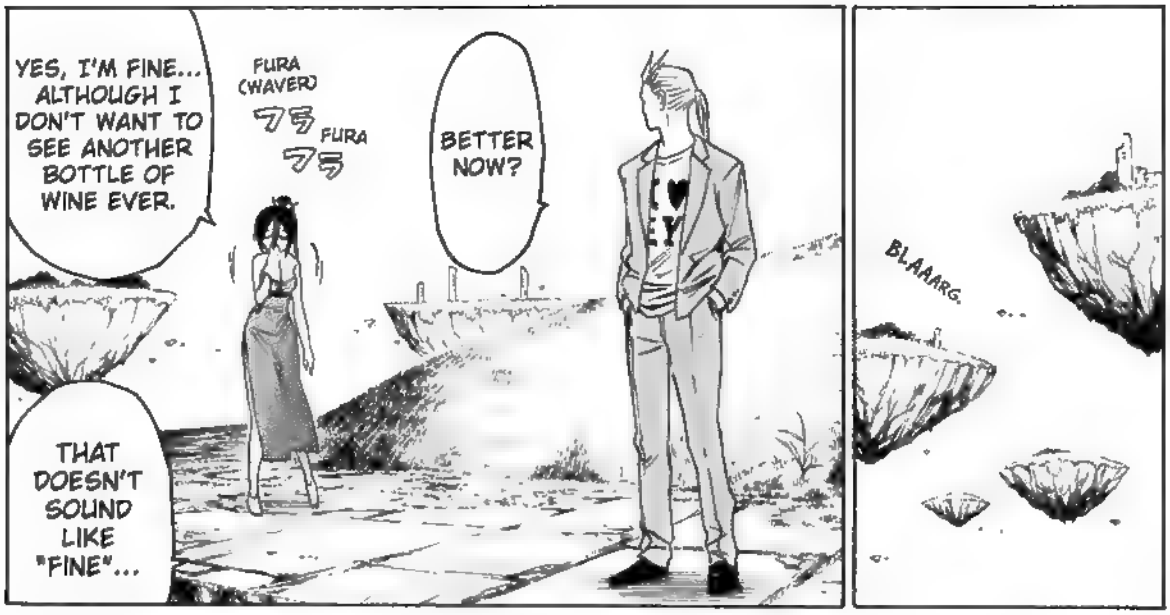
DAN (THUNK)
OH, YOU'RE FINISHED ALREADY?

YES. IT'S A NEW RECORD.
BUT DON'T WORRY.
I'M SHOCKED... SINCE WE SAID GOODNIGHT ...
...YOU TWO HAVE BEEN DRINKING THE WHOLE TIME...!?
YO, MIST.
MORN-IN'!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING, NEYN...?
YOU KNOW WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME UNTIL THE APPOINTED DAY...
OH, SO YOU KNEW I WAS HOLDING BACK!
MWA HA HA HA!
WE WERE JUST TALKING AND ENJOYING OURSELVES. A NICE RELAXING DRINK.
AW... AIN'T THAT SWEET, MIST...?
YOU'RE ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR ME... AM I THAT PATHETIC?
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO PUT JACK UP TO THIS?

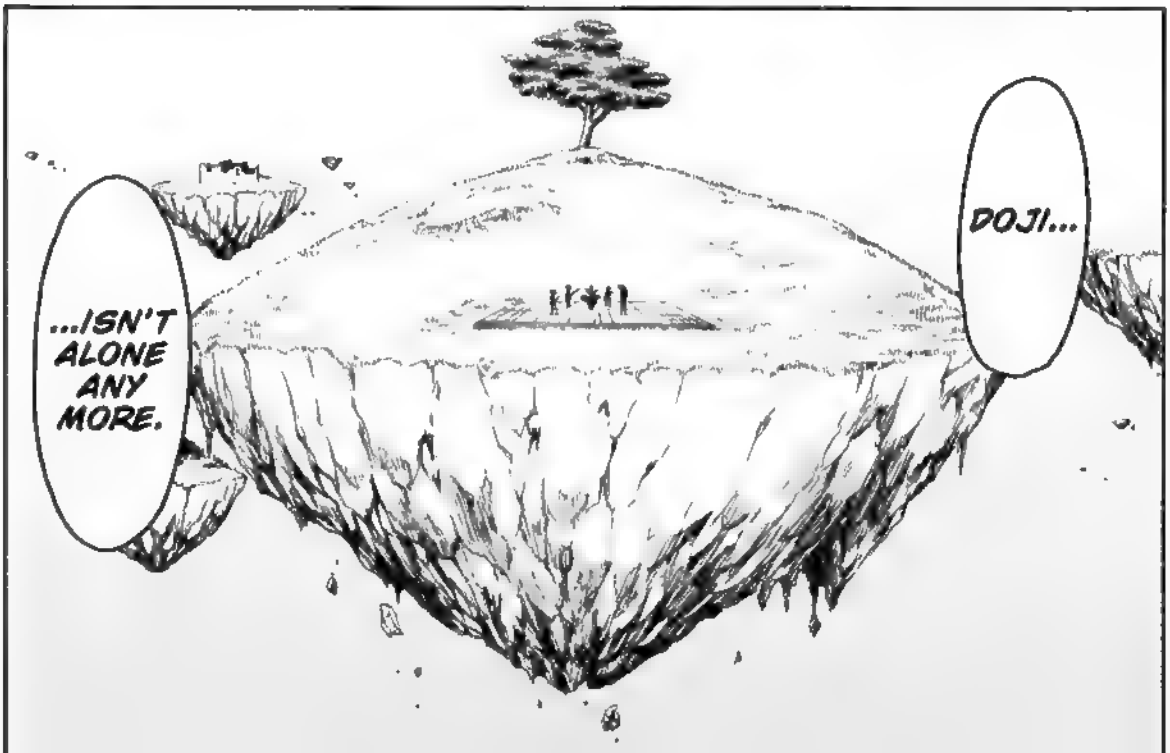
uu
THAT'S WHY EVERYONE ALWAYS TREATS ME LIKE THIS...
LIKE SOME KINDA FRAGILE TOY...
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M WEAK...
uu (SOB)
JACK ...?
.....?
THIS IS THE REAL JACK...
DAM-MIT...
IT TOOK A LONG TIME TO BRING HIM TO THIS PLACE, MIST...
...
uuu
AIN'T THAT RIGHT!?
WHAT IS THIS...? IS HE AN EMOTIONAL DRUNK...?
NOT QUITE.

NOW, THEN ...
SO THAT YOU TWO COULD MEET...
I'M LEAVING THE REST TO YOU.
ER... WAIT...
LIKE YOU SAID...
THAT'S WHAT THIS WAS ALL ABOUT.
SO PLAY NICE AND USE IT WELL.
WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME LEFT...
BYE! ♡
HA-HA... JUST KIDDING ...

... YOU'VE DONE YOUR PART.
SO...
バタン
BATAN (SHUT)
I DID WHAT I COULD...
YES.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN ABLE TO LISTEN TO SOME OF DOJI'S SINGING.
THERE'S BEEN SOME PROGRESS, THANKS TO YOUR "FRESH AIR."
LEAV-ING. NOW.
HUH? BUT ...
URP.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE FIRST. THEN YOU CAN TELL ME.
OKAY, OKAY.
AND ON TOP OF THAT ...


YES, I'M FINE... ALTHOUGH I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANOTHER BOTTLE OF WINE EVER.
FURA (WAVER) フラ FURA フラ
BETTER NOW?
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE "FINE"...
BLAAARG...

IT'S A PRETTY THRILLING SIGHT.
OH, RIGHT. ACTUALLY, WE CAN SEE THEM FROM HERE.
SO? AS YOU WERE SAYING?

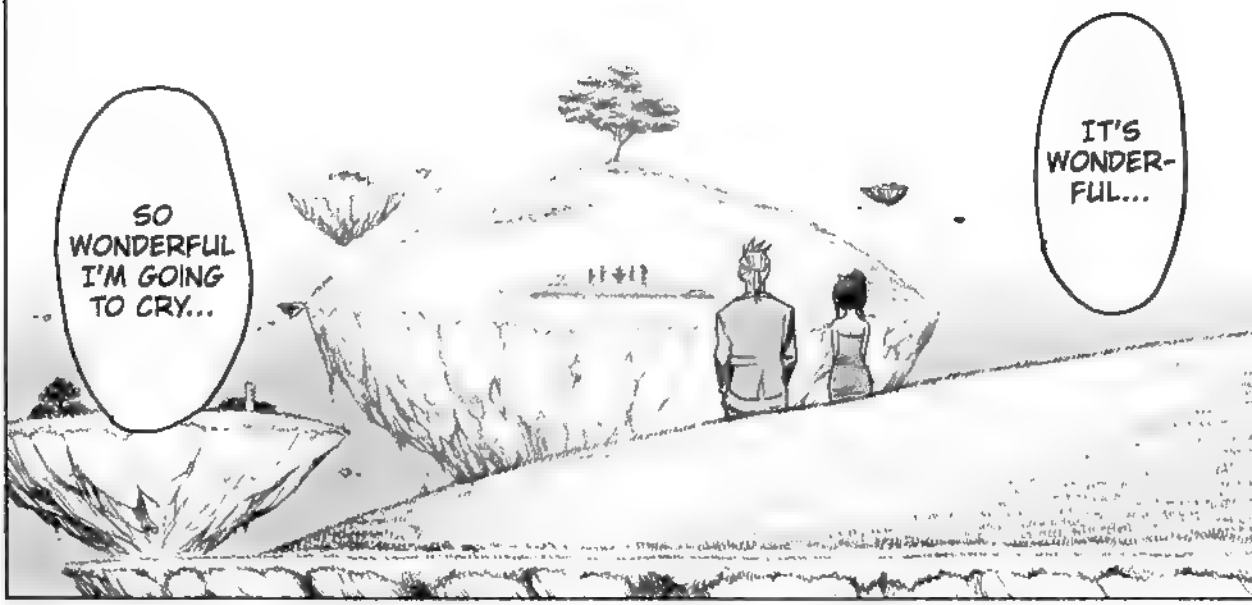

...ISN'T ALONE ANY MORE.
DOJI...

OHH
...

THEY'RE A BAND
...

HORO (TEAR)

OHH
...
THEY'RE A BAND
...
HORO (TEAR)



SHIRT: A TALL COLD PINT

...I'M GLAD.
I SANG WITH ALL MY HEART.
I CAN'T BE THE LEAD SINGER FOR EVIL POTATO NOW! IT'S GOTTA BE YOU!!
WAAAH!
NO, DUMB-ASS!! IT WAS AWE-SOME!
THAT... WASN'T ANY GOOD...?
.....

I WANTED TO SHOW YOU HOW I FELT...
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH...
I'M ACTUALLY PLAYING WITH A BAND... IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE.

HM ...?
YOU MAKE ME CRY ANY MORE...
...AND I'LL MESS YOU UP!
GOO (ROAR)
ARGH! SHUT UP ALREADY!!
I...
THANK YOU SO MUCH...

...IT MAKES YOU CRY EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT IN THE MOOD FOR IT.
BUT THE PROBLEM IS...
DOJI'S SINGING MAKES YOU TEAR UP... THAT'S A FACT.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
...ALL OF A SUDDEN...
YEAH, THAT'S THE THING...
I'M DONE CRYING ...

WHEN I SING WITH MY HEART... IT JUST HAPPENS...
B-BUT ...
SO BASICALLY, THAT'S WHAT HIS POWER IS...
MAN, HOW'RE WE SUPPOSED TO PLAY ANYTHING LIKE THIS!?
YOU GOT PLENTY OF OTHER PARTS! LIKE YOUR GUT! OR THE SEAT OF YOUR PANTS!!
THEN SING WITH SOME-THIN' ELSE!!
YOU'RE BIGGER THAN THAT, DUDE.
HUH ...?
YOU'RE ONLY SINGIN' IN FRONT OF US. THERE'S NO AUDIENCE.
AND WHY'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT YOUR DREAMS COMIN' TRUE?
...AND THE DEMON WORLD'S BIGGEST ROCK SINGER.
GET IT STRAIGHT. SHTEYN☆DOJI IS THE DEMON WORLD'S BAD BOY...

BURURU (SHIVER)
ブルル…
JIWA (TEAR)
じわっ
DON'T MAKE US CRY.
PUT SOME FIRE IN OUR SOULS.
THANKS
……
EGU (SNRT)
えぐっ
UU (SOB)
うっうっ
… YOU'RE RIGHT …
…
BUWA (GUSH)
ぶわっ…
HIKKU (HIC)
ひっく
HIKKU
ひっく
THEN QUIT SNIVELING!!
… THANK YOU…

SOB... SOB... WHY...?
BECAUSE YOU'RE SCARED OF ME LOSING MY REASON?
PLEASE DON'T CRY.
I'M SORRY, JACK...I MISUNDERSTOOD YOU ALL THIS TIME.

YOU ARE STRONG, JACK...
THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO BE STRONGER...
I'M AFRAID OF MYSELF...
I'M THE ONE WHO HAS THE MOST TO FEAR FROM THE BERSERKER LURK.

AND BEFORE I KNOW IT MY HANDS ARE STAINED RED... HA-HA...
LIKE IT'S AUTOMATIC...
NO...IT'S NOT ME. I'M STRONG WHEN I LOSE MY REASON.
THEN I CAN KILL ANYONE AND ANYTHING...
...EVEN YOUR DARLING, CUTE LITTLE ANIMALS... WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING IT.

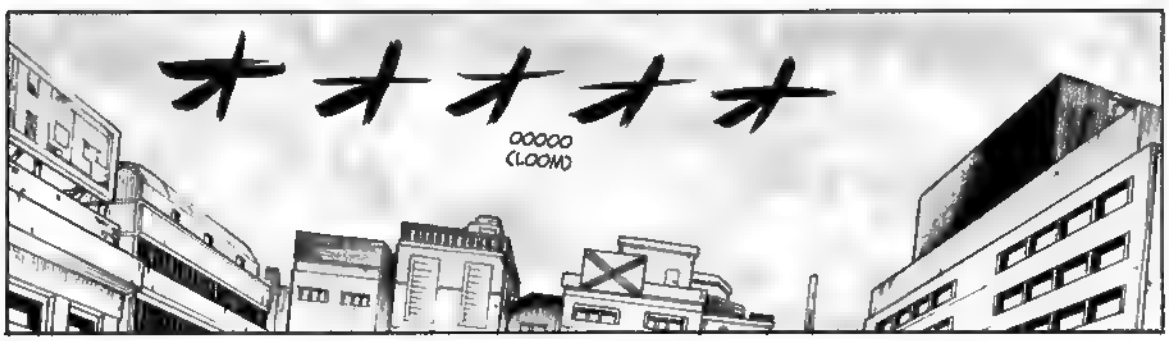
IF I GET USED TO KILLING, THEN MY HEART WON'T ACHE ANYMORE, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHY I TRY TO KILL WHILE I STILL HAVE MY MIND.
... JACK ...
YES... THAT'S WHY I KILL... BECAUSE I LIKE TO... THAT'S IT.
HOW COULD THIS BE...?
YOU REALLY ARE STRONG.
NO, JACK.
HE'S BEEN BATTLING THIS OVERWHELMING TERROR...
AND YET...

...A FRIEND TO LEAN ON AND SHARE HIS PAIN WITH...
HE PROBABLY NEVER EVEN HAD...
...KILL ME.
...YOU CAN JUST...
IT'S ALL RIGHT... YOU'RE NOT ALONE ANYMORE.
I KNOW...
... REALLY WANT TO KILL...
...I DON'T ...
... NO...
EVEN IF YOU DO LOSE YOUR REASON AGAIN...

AND THE STRENGTH OF YOUR HEART.
THAT'S WHY I TRUST YOU.

PROTECT ME... JACK...

YEAH
...
I
WILL.


ooooo
(LOOM)

PACHI
(BLINK)

HEY.
MUKU
(UP)

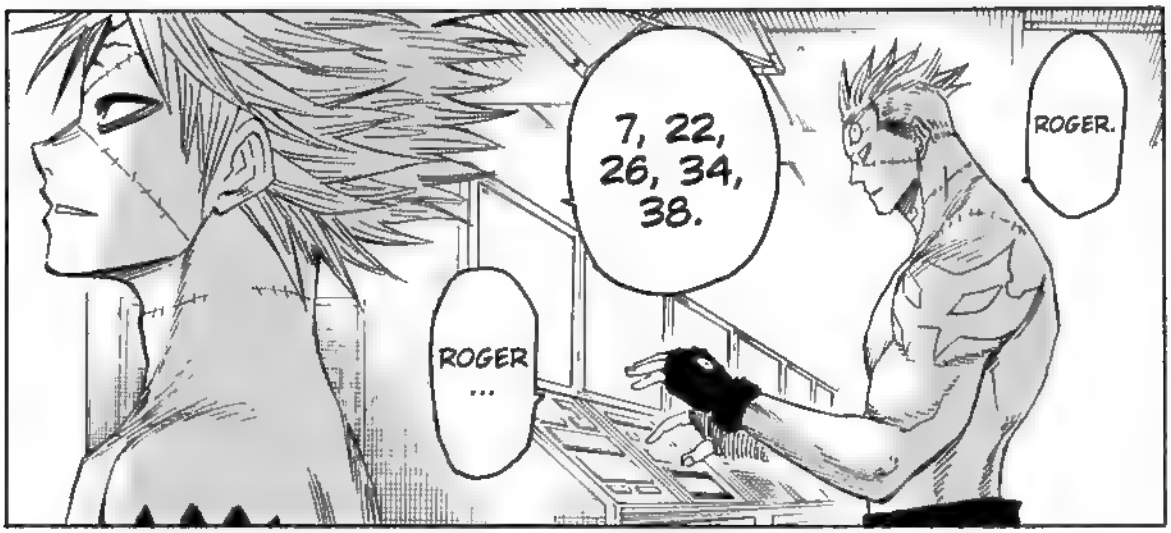
YOU'RE AWAKE.
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
WHERE AM I?
... PATI?
MY MASTER HAS SEVERAL HOUSES IN THE DEMON WORLD... THIS IS JUST ANOTHER ONE.
BUT HARDLY ANYONE USES THIS ONE BESIDES ME.
SHAKU (MUNCH)
シャク…
I HAD A DREAM ABOUT YOU...
...PATI.
'ZAT AN APPLE?
THAT'S RIGHT.
HERE.
YOU TURNED INTO THIS GREAT BIG MONSTER THING AND ATE ME UP.
.....
OH...

BUT YOU SAID YOU WERE GONNA PROTECT ME.
A LI'L BIT.
WERE YOU SCARED?
BY NOW... I'VE LEARNED TO CONTROL MY POWER...
I AM A TERRIBLE BEAST.
THAT... WASN'T A DREAM.
.....
?
MY MASTER SAID I JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT. BUT THAT'S WRONG.
BUT THEN I REALIZED SOME-THING.
I KEPT THINKING ABOUT HOW I DIDN'T WANT IT...
BUT FOR A LONG TIME... I ASKED WHY ME? WHY DID I HAVE TO HAVE A POWER LIKE THIS.

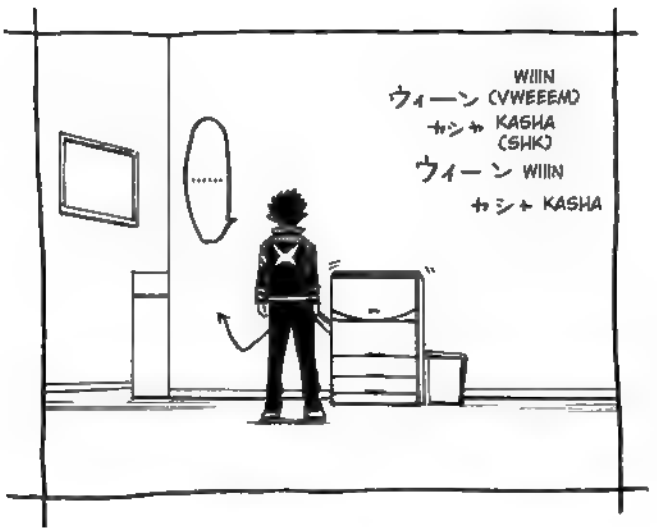
ooooo
(LOOOM)

THERE ARE THINGS I CAN DO WITH THIS POWER.
ボコ
BOKO (BUBBLE)
ボコ
BOKO

4, 16, 18, 27, 31.


7, 22, 26, 34, 38.
ROGER.
ROGER ...

♠ To Be Continued ♠


WIIIN
ウィーン (VWEEEM)
カシャ KASHA
(SHK)
ウィーン WIIIN
カシャ KASHA

BLOOD LAD

# CHAPTER 70 ♠ SHOWDOWN

オオ
(LOOM)
オオオ
SO...
...THIS IS THE POISON THAT CAN KILL US?

...YOUR... BLOOD?
IT IS...
YES...
THAT'S WHERE YOUR POWER IS...?
I CAN MANIPULATE MY BLOOD REMOTELY...
...EVEN IF IT'S INSIDE HIS BODY...

BLSHu (GUSH)
EXACTLY ...!
...FROM THE INSIDE ...!
YOU CAN DESTROY HIS MAGIC...
...THAT MEANS...
...WE'D HAVE NO CHANCE OF GETTING GRIMM TO DRINK MY BLOOD...!
UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES...
I WON'T LET YOU KILL HIM!!
KING AKIM IS STILL ALIVE!
I TOLD YOU...!
WHAT ...?
BUT WE JUST HAPPEN TO BE IN A SITUATION WHERE THAT'S POS—
NO!!

IF I CAN'T SAVE KING AKIM...
...MY EXISTENCE HAS NO MEANING!
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY FOR US TO STOP GRIMM!
THIS REALLY ISN'T THE TIME FOR YOUR CHIVALRY!
EVERYBODY'S GOT A REASON TO BE EMOTIONAL ABOUT THIS, I GET IT...
...BUT LET'S TALK IT OVER LIKE GROWN-UPS.
...OKAY, CALM DOWN A SEC.
I'LL KILL YOU RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!
.....
IF AKIM IS STILL ALIVE, THAT MEANS...
...THE CHARACTER OF HIS MAGIC.....

I KNOW THAT!!
EVEN IF YOU CAN, I'M THE ONE WHO CAN MANIPULATE MY BLOOD...
IF YOU KNOW THAT, THEN YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN'T COMMUNICATE TO ME WHAT YOU DO OR DON'T RECOGNIZE.
I CAN RECOGNIZE IT!!
?
?
THAT'S IT! THE CHARACTER OF HIS MAGIC...!
...SO? WHAT ABOUT IT...?
.....
OF COURSE...
UNFORTUNATELY... WE CAN'T EXACTLY SHARE EACH OTHER'S SENSES...
NIYA (SMIRK)
ニヤ…
OF COURSE... IF WE COULD TELL WHOSE MAGIC IS WHOSE...
...WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PULL OFF A RECKLESS PLOT TO SAVE AKIM...
...I TOLD YOU THAT WE CAN...?
BUT WHAT IF...

YOU CAN.
WITH MY ABILITY.
THE CHAT ROOM...
.....
I SEE ...
SO THAT... REALLY IS POSSIBLE.
.....
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
NATURALLY, AS THE LEADER OF OUR TEAM, I—
HEY, CHEF! WHERE YOU GO TO!?
YOU WASH DISHES NOW!!

W-WOW... NICE TEXTURE, AND YET SO SOFT...
カパ KAPA (PWOP)
ホカ HOKA (STEAM)

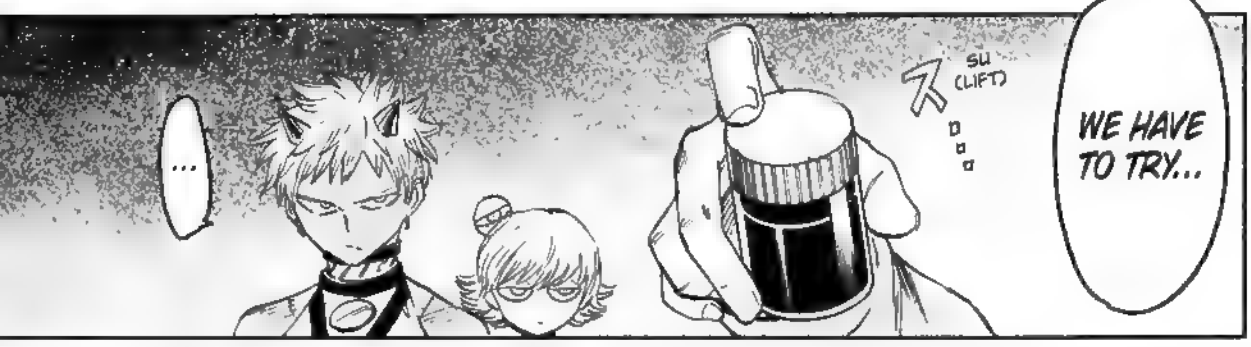
BUT, JASMINE, WE DON'T NEED TO COOK ANYM—
S... SORRY ...
YOU SUCH USELESS CHEF...
JA (SIZZLE)
JA
ORDER UP! FRY RICE DONE!

GUYS ...
SUCH FUN COOKING! MY DREAM, SOMEDAY I OPEN RESTAURANT.
YOU'VE IMPROVED YET AGAIN, THAT YOU HAVE.

...I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT'S POSSIBLE...
BUT, MAN...
.....
WE'RE HAVING AN IMPORTANT DISCUSSION HERE...

.....I DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE, DO I?
LOOKS LIKE AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE AT THIS POINT...
SO WHAT'LL IT BE, BRAZ...?

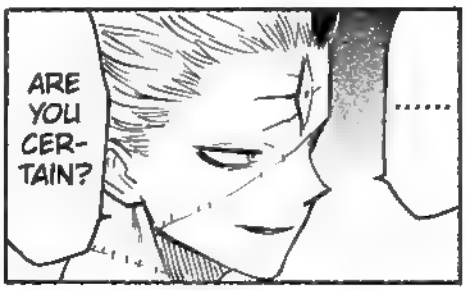
WE'LL KILL GRIMM...
...AND SAVE AKIM.
T·R
RISON


...
SU (LIFT)
WE HAVE TO TRY...

IF HE CAN'T SAVE THE KING...
...I'LL KILL HIM...

AS YOU PROM-ISED.
NOW, DRINK IT.

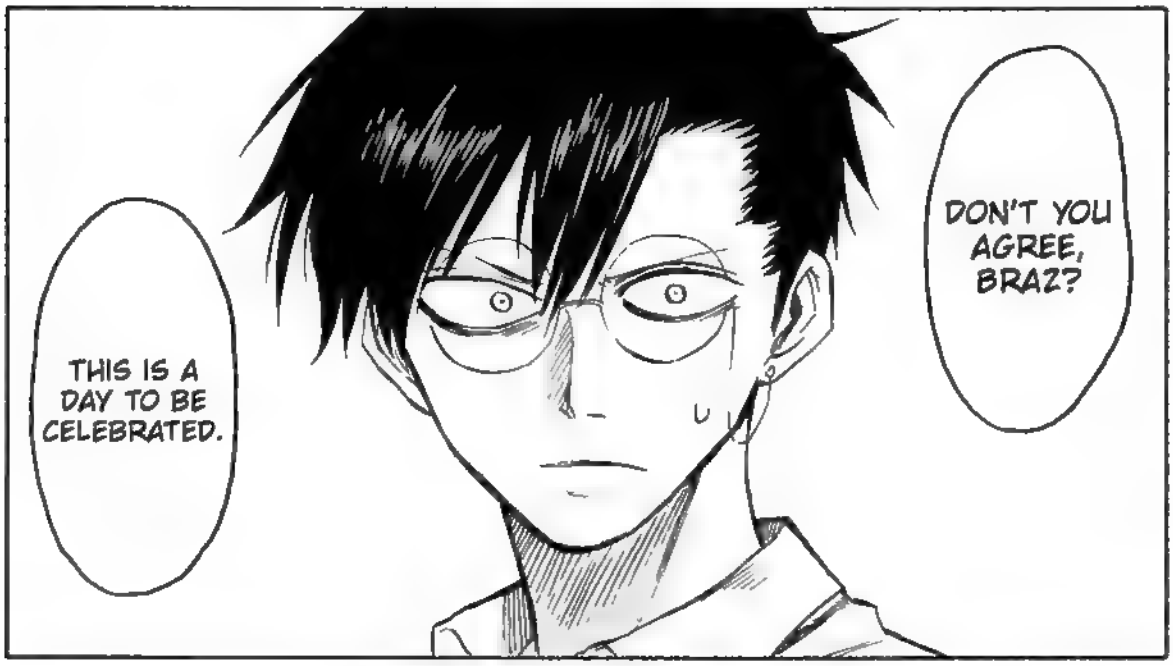
...IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT.
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE BREAKING OUT IN A COLD SWEAT...?


ARE YOU CER-TAIN?
.....

IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE BLOOD.
OH WELL...

HEH...
I'M CONFIDENT IN THIS POISON.

IT WON'T BE ANY FUN TO JUST DRINK IT NOW...
WE'LL HOLD OFF.
WH—
...NO.


DON'T YOU AGREE, BRAZ?
THIS IS A DAY TO BE CELEBRATED.

ONCE AGAIN, THE DEMON WORLD WILL BE DYED...
ZA (KTCH).

...WITH OUR COLOR ...

ooooo
(LOOM)

GOING BY COLOR ...
...THEY'RE PITCH BLACK...

...WHAT IS THIS ...?

PREPARE YOUR-SELVES.
LET'S START WITH THE RANK B GROUP...

OOOOOO
(LOOM)
WE'RE REPORTING LIVE FROM THE ARENA THAT AKIM PREPARED FOR THIS DAY!
LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!
MIC. DEMONTV

And we're here to bring you...
...the moment when the fate of the Demon World is decided...

IT'S FINALLY COME. TODAY, RIGHT HERE, THERE WILL BE A BATTLE AGAINST THE BLACKLISTED...
OOOO
OO
OO (RAH)
UOO (HURRAH)
UOOO
HEEDLESS OF THE DANGER, A CROWD HAS GATHERED TO WITNESS HISTORY!

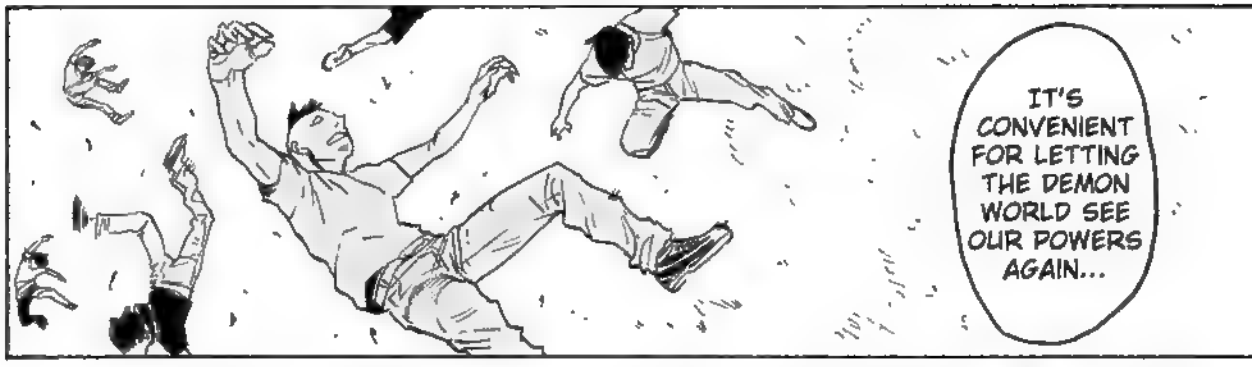
HUH?

GOOOOO (ZOOOM)
WHAT'S THAT...?

OOOO

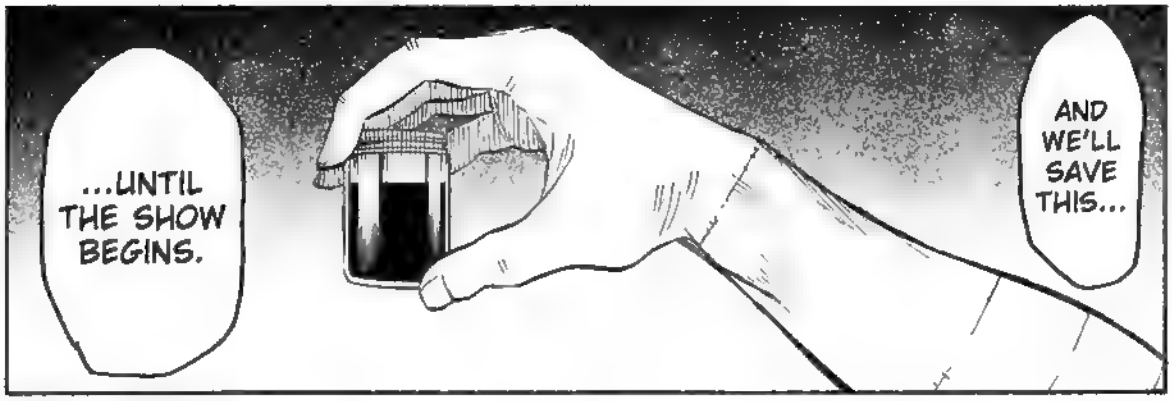
BRAZ ...
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW.
WE'RE NOT LIKE THAT BRAT AKIM.
WE COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT COLLECTING PARTS...

DO
DO
DO
DO
(BOOM)
...IS CONVENIENCE.
THE ONLY REASON WE'VE WAITED UNTIL THIS DAY...

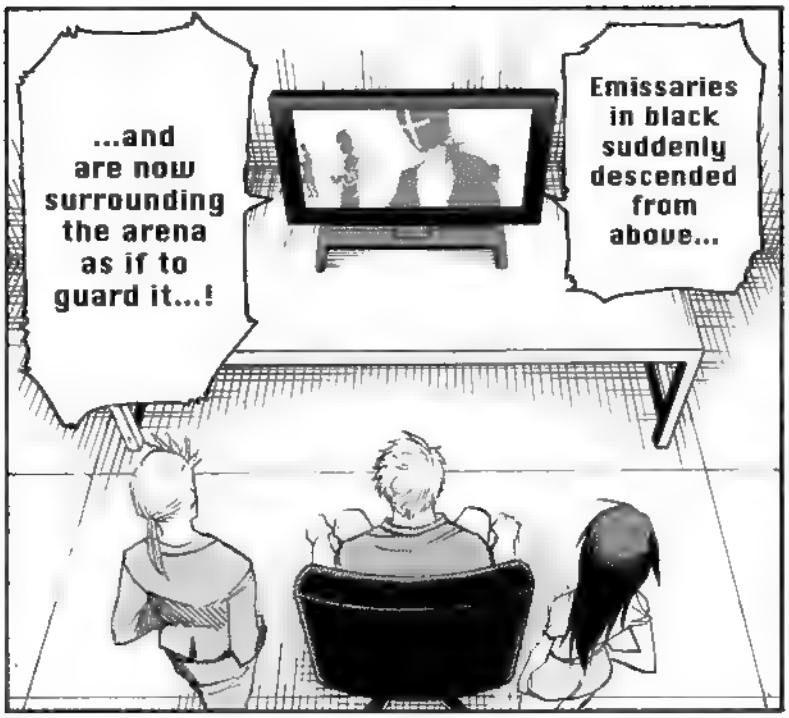

IT'S CONVENIENT FOR LETTING THE DEMON WORLD SEE OUR POWERS AGAIN...

...AND TAKING OVER...

IF WE WERE TO PUT IT IN AKIM'S WORDS, THIS IS A SHOW...
THAT HAS A NICE RING TO IT.


AND WE'LL SAVE THIS...
...UNTIL THE SHOW BEGINS.

A LITTLE APERITIF... SO TO SPEAK.


...and are now surrounding the arena as if to guard it...!
Emissaries in black suddenly descended from above...

...WHAT...
WHAT COULD THIS MEAN ...!?

...ENTRY TICKETS... I THINK.
...MORE LIKE...
...TO USE AS A BARRI-CADE...?
...THAT BASTARD... DID HE MAKE MORE KIDS...

THAT IS, ANY DEMON WHO CAN'T BEAT THE EMISSARIES IN BLACK NEED NOT APPLY...
THOSE WHO AREN'T WORTH FIGHTING CAN'T ENTER THE RING...

How's it going on your end, old timers...?
NOW, THAT WOULD BE FUNNY.
I AIN'T LAUGH-ING.
COULD EVERY ONE OF THOSE GUYS BE STRONGER THAN THE BLACKLISTED? THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE, RIGHT?
IT'S ABOUT TIME...
RIGHT ...
WE JUST SAW THEM OFF.
ZA (KTCH)
YOU SHOULD BE SEEING THEM ON YOUR SCREEN SHORTLY ...

ZA (KTCH)
OUTTA THE WAY.
WEAK-LINGS.
DOSA (THUMP)
GORO
GORO (ROLL)
BON (BOOM)

ZAN
(STEP)


WHY,
THAT'S
...!!
!

BLACK-LISTED ...?
The Blacklisted are showing themselves at last!!
UOOO CHURRAHD WAA
ウオオオ
WAA CRAAHD
ワー
The Blacklisted are here!!
STAY RIGHT HERE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO.
NO.
... THERE ...
THAT'S RIGHT, I...HAVE TO GO...
LEAVE EVERY-THING TO ME...

YESTERDAY, HE TOLD US THAT TRAINING'S OVER...
...AND HE'S BEEN STARING INTO SPACE EVER SINCE...

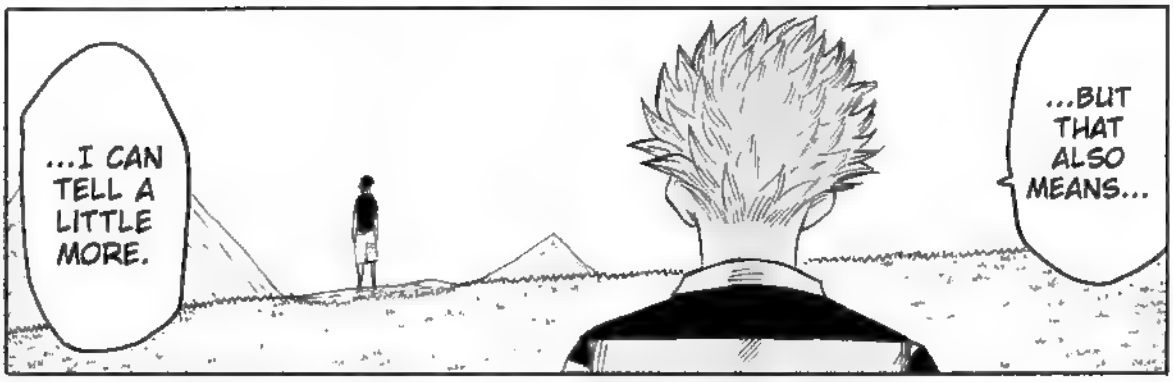
HEY, HOW LONG IS THAT GEEZER GONNA STAND THERE LIKE THAT?

.....
SO... THAT KID, PATI...

AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO GO HELP KILL THAT JERK AKIM TOO?
WATCHIN' TV...
WHAT THE HELL ARE WE SITTING HERE FOR ANYWAY...?

HUH?
WHAT'D YA THINK WHEN YOU SAW HIM, STAZ?

...
I MEAN, SURE...
...WE TRAINED, AND WE GOT STRONGER... A LITTLE...
DIDJA THINK YOU COULD BEAT HIM?


...I CAN TELL A LITTLE MORE.
...BUT THAT ALSO MEANS...

NO WAY.
WHAT, YOU SCARED OR SOME-THING?

...IF YOU'RE READY.
I'M JUST ASKIN' ...

...
I CAN TELL WHEN SOMEONE'S AT A DIFFERENT LEVEL.

WHAT DO WE FIGHT FOR?
WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT TO US?
YOU SHOULD RETHINK THAT TOO.
IN THE WORLD OF THE WEAK, OUR LIVES ARE AT STAKE.
WHY WOULD WE STEP INTO AN ARENA WHERE WE MIGHT DIE?

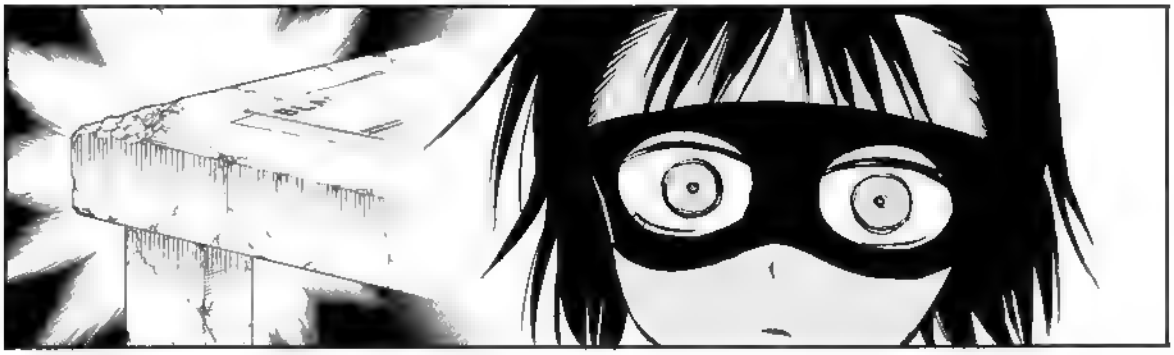
...JUST THE TIME TO DO THAT.
AND THIS MIGHT BE...

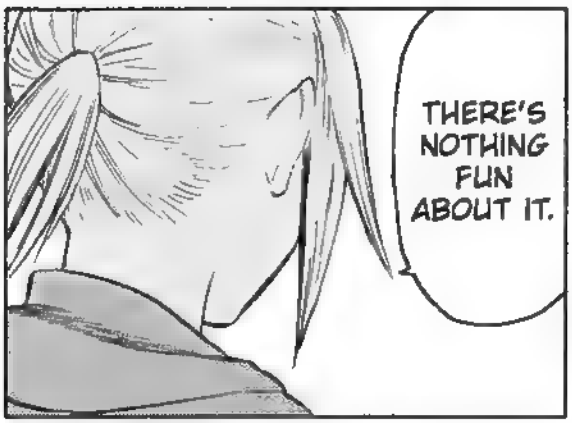
WHY?
WHY CAN'T I GO?
...IF YOU GO...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT THE BLACK-LISTED.
YEAH! I'M GONNA BEAT THOSE GUYS.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.
I'M GOING TO STOP AKIM.
YOU CAN'T GO AGAINST PAPA.
HE'LL KILL YOU, PATI.
.....
STAY RIGHT HERE.

I'M GONNA GO AND...
...AND KILL THE BLACK-LISTED...?
DON'T YOU GET IT!?
BAN (WHAM)
YOU CAN'T GO!
I'M THE ONE WHO'S SUPPOSED TO GO!

I'M...
...ONE OF THE BLACK-LISTED TOO.

ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME TOO...
...ON YOUR PAPA'S ORDERS?




THERE'S NOTHING FUN ABOUT IT.

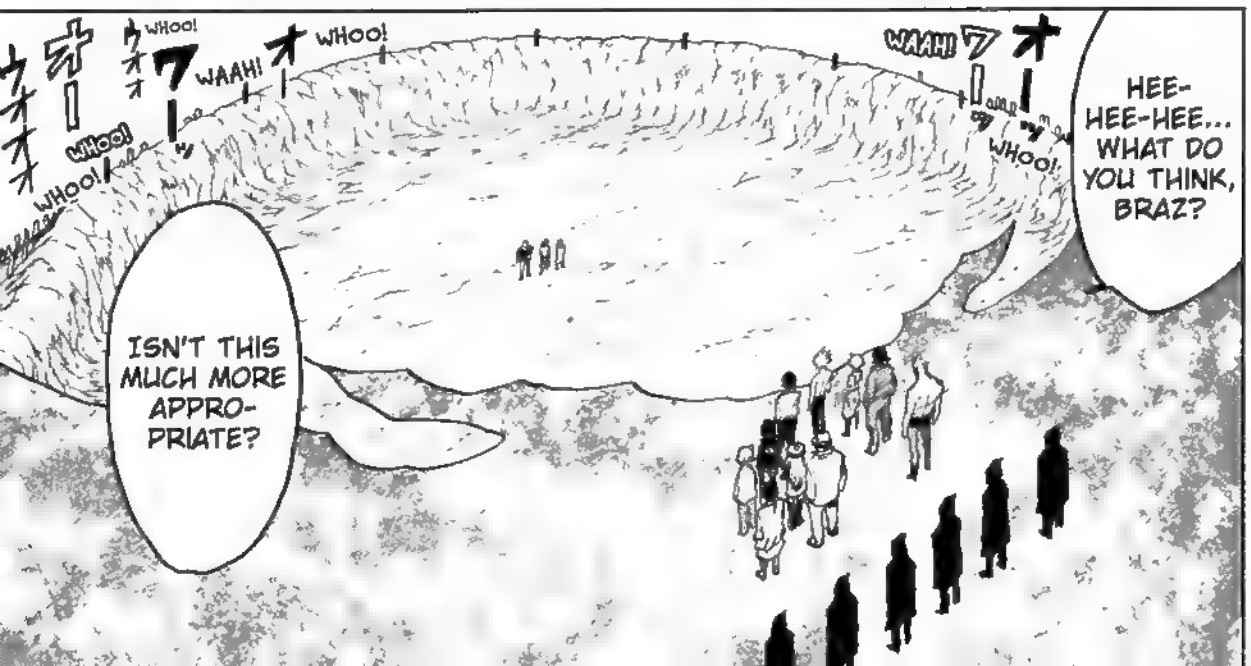
THAT'S WHERE...
...YOU'RE TRYING TO GO.

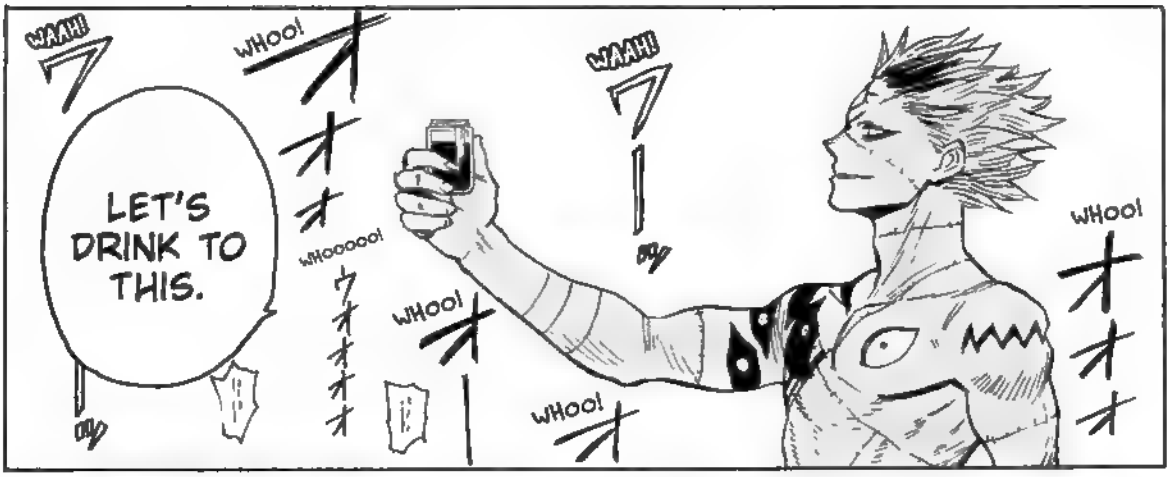
JUST PEOPLE KILLING EACH OTHER.

OOO
(LOOM)
THAT'S THE ONLY REASON IT EXISTS ...
IT'S THE WORST KIND OF PLACE THERE IS.

GOOO (ROOOAR)
Booo!
THERE HE IS!
Booo!
IT'S AKIM!
Booo!
TH—
FRTV
OOOOO

ドゥ
DO
(BOOM)
ドゥ
DO
ドゥ
DO
ドゥ
DO
ドゥ
DO


ウオオオ
WHOO!
WHOO!
ウオオ
WHOO!
WAAH!
オー
WHOO!
WAAH!
オー
WHOO!
ISN'T THIS MUCH MORE APPRO-PRIATE?
HEE-HEE-HEE... WHAT DO YOU THINK, BRAZ?


WAAH!
WHOO!
LET'S DRINK TO THIS.
WHOOOOO!
WHOO!
WAAH!
WHOO!
WHOO!

IT'S TIME FOR THE SHOW-DOWN.
DOKUN
BABAMP

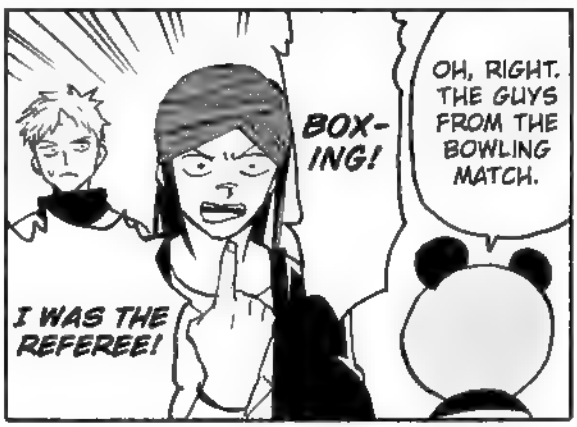
To Be Continued

BLOOD LAD

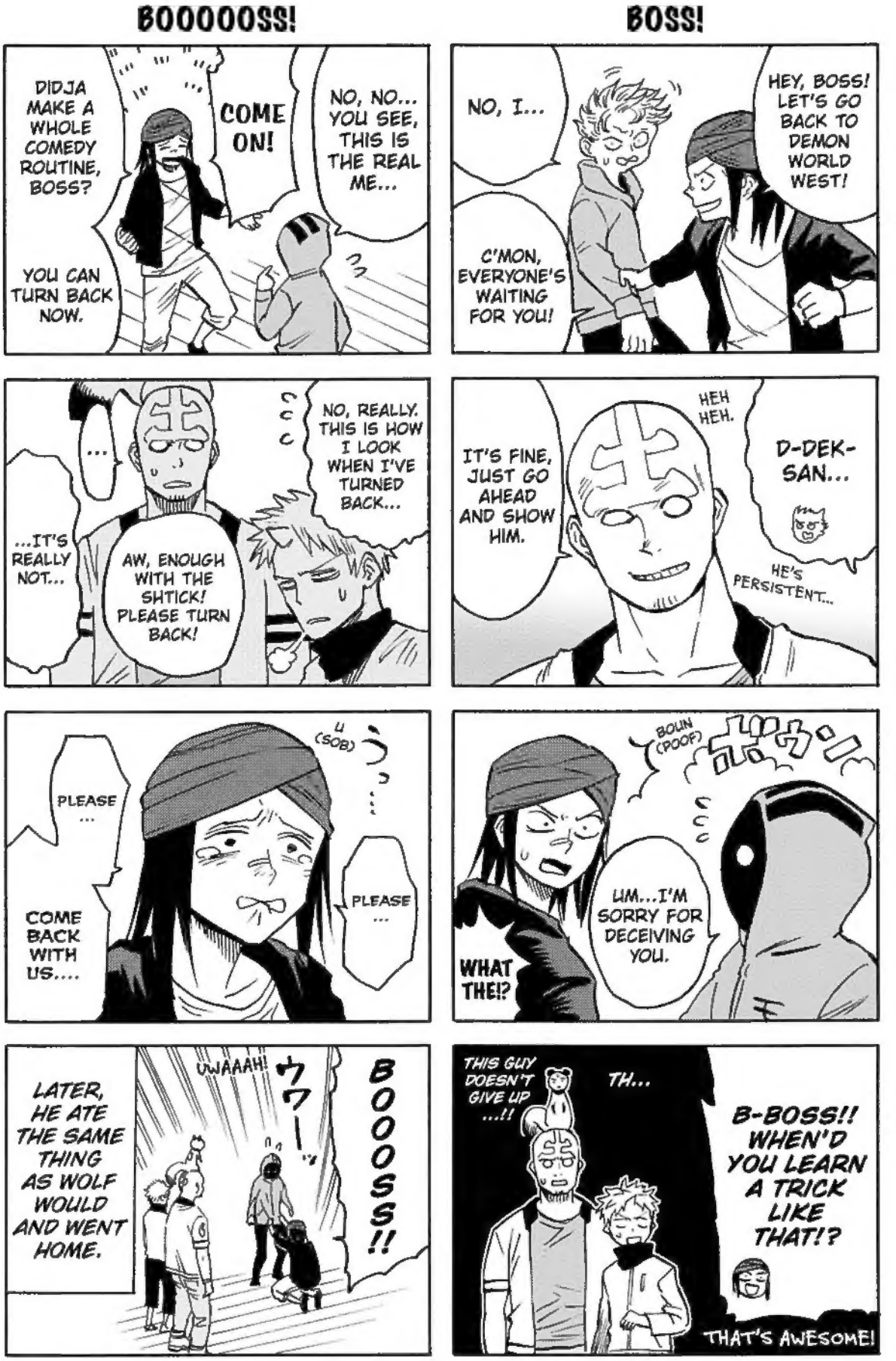
KARAN (JINGLE)
カラン
KARAN
カラン

# LIFE AT THIRD EYE

## THE PAIR FROM THE WEST



BOSS?
HUH? BOSS, DID YOU GET TALLER?
YUP...
WAAAH!
YOU'RE SAFE! I'M SO GLAD!!
...
PU (PFF)
TEE HEE!
NIYA (SMIRK)
ニヤ ニヤ
NIYA
THAT'S OUR BOSS FOR YA!
WOW, YOU HAD A GROWTH SPURT IN THE MEAN-TIME!!
Y...YEAH, YOU KNOW.
KIJI, WHAT THE HELL! WATCH WHAT YOU'RE SAYIN' ABOUT OUR BOSS!!
EEK EEK OOK'
... REALLY THE BOSS ...?
HEY, IS THIS ...
BAAAN
NO, YOU LOOK!
IT'S OUR BOSS, WOLF! ISN'T IT OBVIOUS!? JUST LOOK!
HNNG!
BOSS
YEAH... WE HEARD HE WAS HERE.
YOU CAME LOOKIN' FOR WOLF?
ACTUALLY ...
...HE'S STILL HERE NOW!
OH, YEAH. HE WAS HERE...
YUP! IF YOU WANT, I'LL GO GET HIM RIGHT NOW! WAIT RIGHT THERE.
REALLY!?
BOSS!!
BAAAN (TA-DAAA)
A FEW MIN-UTES LATER —
MO


BOOOOOSS!
DIDJA MAKE A WHOLE COMEDY ROUTINE, BOSS?
COME ON!
NO, NO... YOU SEE, THIS IS THE REAL ME...
YOU CAN TURN BACK NOW.
BOSS!
NO, I...
HEY, BOSS! LET'S GO BACK TO DEMON WORLD WEST!
C'MON, EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR YOU!
...
NO, REALLY. THIS IS HOW I LOOK WHEN I'VE TURNED BACK...
...IT'S REALLY NOT...
AW, ENOUGH WITH THE SHTICK! PLEASE TURN BACK!
HEH HEH.
D-DEK-SAN...
IT'S FINE, JUST GO AHEAD AND SHOW HIM.
HE'S PERSISTENT...
PLEASE ...
COME BACK WITH US....
U (SOB)
うっ...
PLEASE ...
BOUN (POOF)
ボワン
UM...I'M SORRY FOR DECEIVING YOU.
WHAT THE!?
LATER, HE ATE THE SAME THING AS WOLF WOULD AND WENT HOME.
UWAAAH!
ウワーン
BOOOSS!!
THIS GUY DOESN'T GIVE UP ...!!
TH...
B-BOSS!! WHEN'D YOU LEARN A TRICK LIKE THAT!?
THAT'S AWESOME!

END

# BLOOD LAD 14

These images appeared under the jacket of the original edition of *Blood Lad*!

I MEAN, I TRIED TO PULL ONE OVER ON YOU, BUT I BET YOU SAW THROUGH ME.
IT'S BEEN FOURTEEN VOLUMES. I CAN'T STOP NOW...

# BLOOD LAD 14

YUUKI KODAMA

Translation: Melissa Tanaka

Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

BLOOD LAD Volume 14 © Yuuki KODAMA 2015. Edited by KADOKAWA SHOTEN. First published in Japan in 2015 by KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo. English translation rights arranged with KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo, through TUTTLE-MORI AGENCY, INC., Tokyo.

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Yen Press
Hachette Book Group
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10104

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First Yen Press ebook Edition: February 2016

ebook ISBN: 978-0-316-26915-5

App ISBN: 978-0-316-26916-2